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TUESDAY MARCH 27 1990

## Howe appeals for loyalty

# Heseltine in new pledge on Thatcher

By Philip Webster and Robin Oakley

**THE PRIME** Minister will lead the Conservatives into the next election and win it, Mr Michael Heseltine predicted last night.

The former Cabinet minister declared that no one had done more than he to support the election of Mrs Thatcher's three governments, and no one would strive harder to secure a fourth term. But his declaration fell short of a personal endorsement from the Prime Minister.

Mr Heseltine's unexpected intervention in the growing speculation about the Conservative Party leadership in the wake of the Mid Staffordshire by-election defeat last Thursday and a welter of adverse opinion polls came after an appeal from Sir Geoffrey Howe that he should decide his support for Mrs Thatcher.

At the same time, senior ministers predicted privately that Mr Heseltine's emergence as the favourite to succeed her would strengthen her resolve to stay on and fight the next election. "She will never hand the party over to Michael," a senior Cabinet source said.

Another minister, Mr Michael Howard, issued a veiled criticism of Mr Heseltine when he warned of the dangers of the Government adopting a more interventionist approach.

The Secretary of State for Employment had Mr Heseltine clearly in his sights when he told the Adam Smith Institute that those who proclaimed their adherence to the

free market but in reality "itch to pull levers and throw switches to intervene" would all too easily succumb to each successive call to interfere.

Mr Heseltine's carefully-drafted 160-word statement was issued after talks with allies at Westminster.

It said: "No one did more to support the election of Mrs Thatcher's first government when I launched the first privatisation programme of council houses sales. No one did more to support the election of Mrs Thatcher's second government when as Secretary of State for Defence I led the battle against CND."

"No one did more as a backbencher to support the election of Mrs Thatcher's third government when I spoke in 108 constituencies."

"I have repeatedly said I believe Mrs Thatcher will lead the Conservative Party into the next election and that the Conservative Party will win it. If I am proved right in those forecasts, my colleagues know no one will strive harder to secure a fourth term of Conservative government."

The absence in the statement of any praise for Mrs Thatcher was noted at Westminster last night but caused little surprise, given their known differences and the fact that he did not vote for her in the leadership election last autumn, but it was seen as an attempt to calm the feverish speculation about his intentions.

Although Mr Heseltine has never disguised his leadership ambitions, he is anxious to avoid charges of splitting the party. It was noted last night that he had mentioned Mrs Thatcher by name several times in his statement, something he has been accused by opponents of failing to do in the past.

Earlier, his allies had insisted that Mr Heseltine had always been loyal to the Government and had nothing for which to apologize. However, Sir Geoffrey's surprise intervention made it inevitable that he would have to say something.

Speaking on BBC Radio 4's *Today* programme, Sir Geoffrey said: "I would like to see Mr Heseltine doing what we are all doing, which is support the present Government going through the manifest difficulty of securing the acceptance of the change to the community charge and applying the right policies to the reconquest effectively of inflation to sus-



Tory divisions, page 12

## INSIDE

### Centre-right Hungary win

Hungarian voters resoundingly rejected hard-line communism in Sunday's first free multi-party election in 45 years.

They chose instead new centre-right opposition parties which have promised to return the country to a market economy and western democratic values. Page 9

### Private profits

Companies once seen as ugly ducklings have emerged as profitable swans under the Government's privatisation programme, including Enterprise Oil and British Telecom, according to a survey of profits and pay. Pages 6, 28

### Charity query

Hertfordshire Fraud Squad is investigating and accountants have been called in to a charity which uses telephone sales techniques to raise money for underprivileged Third World children. Page 3

### Share upset

Share dealings in London United Investments, where Prince Michael of Kent is a director, were suspended yesterday after an actuarial report exposed "financial uncertainties" in its Walbrook Insurance subsidiary. Page 23

### Happy ship

Laurie Smith, the skipper of Rothmans, reports sky-high morale on board the British yacht after she leapt from eighth place to first by exploiting the strong trade winds of the Brazilian coast in the fifth leg of the Whitbread Round the World Race. Page 42

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### Lawson warning on delayed ERM entry

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

MR NIGEL LAWSON yesterday intensified the pressure on the Prime Minister to agree to early entry into the exchange rate mechanism of the European Monetary System, warning that the Government's commitment against inflation was at risk.

The former Chancellor of the Exchequer described Britain's non-membership as "an exposed flank" and suggested the timetable envisaged by the Government might be "too leisurely for the circumstances in which we find ourselves".

In the Budget debate yesterday he said Conservative policies had brought unparalleled improvements. That would continue only if the exposed flank was protected, which meant early entry.

Parliament, page 7

Union statement, page 8

Mr John Major, the Chancellor, said in the Budget

speech last week that the conditions for joining the ERM stood, remarks which gave the impression that Britain might join next year.

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# Bottomley fails to defuse nurses' protest

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

NURSES demanding poll tax rebates for all nursing students gave Mrs Virginia Bottomley, the Minister for Health, an angry reception at their annual congress in Brighton yesterday.

They booted and hissed throughout Mrs Bottomley's speech as she refused to give assurances on key issues of concern.

The Royal College of Nursing has been pressing the Government to extend the 30 per cent poll tax rebate for the 2,000 students on Project 2000 training courses to all 60,000 student nurses.

Miss Linda Bailey, a nursing student from Lambeth, south London, said she would have to pay £580 a year in poll tax. "Why should the majority of student nurses have to pay 100 per cent of the charge when trainees in the armed forces who are earning over £9,500 a year pay only 20 per cent?" she demanded. A first-year student nurse working outside London earns £5,695.

Mrs Bottomley insisted that salaried student nurses, apart from those on the Project 2000 courses being implemented in 16 districts, would be treated like any other salaried health authority staff. Students in London would receive an 11 per cent increase by the end of the year and a 28 per cent rise this year in London, waiting.

There was no relevance in a comparison with the armed forces, who had a different employer, she said.

Earlier, Miss Mandie Storey,

the college president, claimed the poll tax was anomalous, divisive and short-sighted. It was divisive because it set one class of nursing student apart from the other. "It is shortsighted because it acts as another entirely avoidable deterrent to recruitment into nursing," she said.

Schools of nursing had reported that students have been checking the local community charge rate applying for a place, Miss Storey said. The viability of courses in high poll tax areas would be threatened.

Mrs Bottomley was also pressed to set up a national inspectorate to monitor and set standards in both health and local authority services. However, again she made it evident that the Government was not planning such a move. "There are other ways of achieving equality than having an inspectorate which would be yet another body and yet another organization," she said.

Quality would be specified in the contracts to be drawn up between health authorities and hospitals from next April.

Much of Mrs Bottomley's speech was devoted to praising nurses on their achievements and their hard work, but her comments were regarded as patronizing. "She misjudged nurses in terms of believing that her reassurances were all that were needed," Miss Christine Hancock, the college general secretary, said at a press

The colleges argue there is no evidence that the changes, which include self-governing hospitals, GP practice budgets and an internal market in health care, will improve patient care.

This request, however, met with little sympathy from Mrs

Bottomley yesterday. "It would be quite wrong now to delay the implementation of the Bill. Uncertainty is antipathetic to confidence." In order to maintain confidence



Mrs Bottomley and Miss Linda Bailey, a student nurse from Lambeth worried at the prospect of a £580 poll tax bill

Bottomley yesterday. "It was important to proceed with all speed with the changes."

• Artists Against the Poll Tax, featuring rock bands, disc jockeys, comedians and other

entertainers, was launched at the House of Commons by Mr Philip Green, the organizer, blamed the showbusiness habit of late rising and the clocks going forward.

However, most of the artists expected failed to appear at

## End of the line for junk calls

By David Sapsted

THE DAYS of "junk" telephone calls from double-glazing salesmen, insurance agents and kitchen-equipment suppliers may be numbered.

Proposals to outlaw unsolicited sales calls to individuals in their homes have been submitted to Sir Bryan Carsberg, the director-general of the Office of Telecommunications (Ofcom), who is determined to crack down on what the trade describes as "cold calls".

Sir Bryan will be studying proposals this week from the British Direct Marketing Association, the cold-caller trade association, suggesting that a Telephone Preference Service be set up. Theoretically, it would operate in the same way as the Mail Preference Service, which enables people who do not wish to receive junk mail to have their names taken off mailing lists.

A firm which called a person after he or she had requested otherwise would be liable to have its Branch Systems General Licence - under which all multiple-phone users operate - revoked.

Later this year, the British Direct Marketing Association will also be putting forward proposals to control the growing problem of junk faxes, the unwanted transmissions clogging thousands of offices facsimile receivers.

## Dismissive magistrates 'in error'

By Frances Gibb

MAGISTRATES were warned by the High Court yesterday not to use their power to dismiss cases as a way of punishing the Crown Prosecution Service over "slips" in bringing cases to trial.

In a test case mounted by the Director of Public Prosecutions, Lord Justice Mustill, sitting with Mr Justice Schiemann, said: "Justices are there to try cases and not punish prosecuting authorities."

"The public has an interest in ensuring that properly brought prosecutions are properly conducted in court."

The judges allowed the applications for a judicial review, by Mr Allan Green QC, the Director of Public Prosecutions, of decisions made by Swansea magistrates to dismiss two cases.

In February last year the magistrates blocked a prosecution on a criminal damage charge because the principal prosecution witness failed to appear on time. They also dismissed a case because two police witnesses failed to turn up after a mix-up over dates.

According to the Department of the Environment, 7.5 million people in England and Wales, mainly occupants of houses with lowatable values, will qualify under the transitional relief scheme. In addition, the scheme has been opened to pensioners and disabled people who are not themselves ratepayers but are

## Millions may 'lose' relief on their poll tax payments

By David Walker, Public Administration Correspondent

MILLIONS of people who might have thought they were to be protected by the Government's transitional relief scheme for the poll tax will shortly find out the extent of their mistake.

Even those who get some money out of the scheme may find - on one estimate - that they are worse off by up to £4.50 a week net.

At the Conservative Party conference last autumn, Mr David Hunt, Minister of State at the Department of the Environment, delighted his colleagues by grafting the special relief scheme on poll tax rebates.

The judges allowed the applications for a judicial review, by Mr Allan Green QC, the Director of Public Prosecutions, of decisions made by Swansea magistrates to dismiss two cases.

In fact, Mr Hunt's qualification - that his calculations applied only if the local authority spends at the officially approved level - renders them academic. Labour's charge that the Government was trying to "bribe" voters may itself turn out to be academic.

According to the Department of the Environment, 7.5 million people in England and Wales, mainly occupants of houses with lowatable values, will qualify under the transitional relief scheme. In addition, the scheme has been opened to pensioners and disabled people who are not themselves ratepayers but are

controlled Bristol City Council said yesterday that it was concentrating on telling residents about the rebates for poll tax rather than the transitional relief, because few people would benefit from it and mostly by tiny sums.

The Government committed over £800 million to the scheme, over three years.

• A faction within the ruling Labour group on Liverpool City council is threatening to vote against the poll tax figure recommended by its leaders.

Echoing the refusal of Labour councillors to set a rate in 1985, which led to their disqualification and suspension, rebel councillors may have sufficient votes to prevent the council levying a poll tax at the council meeting scheduled for tomorrow night.

Last night, Ms Joyce Gould, a national Labour Party official, addressed Labour councillors at the council leader, Mr Kevan Coombes, threatening to resign.

Liverpool has set its budget for 1990-91, but has yet to ratify the poll tax figure implied by the budget: £449 per head. It is supposed to do this by March 31.

Among 56 Labour councillors, Mr Coombes faces 21 taking a hard line on the poll tax.

He said: "Without a poll tax in place, Liverpool goes bankrupt on Monday. I cannot stand by and see that happen."

## Ministers set out to solve problems facing homeless

By John Lewis, Political Staff

THE GOVERNMENT will today take the first steps to deal with the thousands of young people living rough in cities.

Mr Michael Spicer, Minister for Housing and Planning, is to announce an extra £148 million to be spent on the homeless in the coming financial year, starting next month, with a further £102 million next year.

Most of the money, £112 million for local authorities and £36 million for housing associations, will go on renovating empty, run-down council housing to take the homeless. There will also be some hostel accommodation for single people.

There are about 125,000 "statutory" homeless in Britain, whom councils have to house. About 38,000 are in temporary accommodation, invariably bed and breakfast.

Mr Spicer is hoping to cut the number of homeless in

temporary housing by 15,000 over the next two years.

This should free bed and breakfast accommodation for the "non-statutory" homeless living in "cardboard cities" or shop doorways.

Mr Spicer said: "The schemes we have looked at favourably are those which bring existing property, thought to be sub-standard, back into use, but the money can be used for new buildings and hostels as well."

Ministers believe that they have an answer to the "statutory" problem. The "non-statutory" problem, however, is growing, with several thousand young people thought to be living rough in London alone.

Mr Spicer said that the problem was common to many cities in the rest of Europe and in the United States. A primary cause is thought to be the same as for the statutory homeless: the break-

up of marriages and the alienation of children in care.

Another cause is believed to be young people, some as young as 13, with what Mr Spicer called "a misplaced sense of independence".

He said: "People arrive in London thinking they have the bright lights in front of them, when, in fact, it can be extremely dangerous."

It is, however, not simply a question of providing hostel-type accommodation. For one thing, there is often antipathy between younger and older vagrants. There is also the question of whether the young would use the facilities.

Government committees are considering solutions. There is no doubt about the political, as well as social, urgency. The sight of young people sleeping rough is often blamed, rightly or wrongly, on a "Thatcherite society".

Leading article, page 13

## Social Fund powers clarified

By Nicholas Wood, Political Correspondent

LEGAL changes aimed at reasserting ministerial control over the cost of emergency payments to the poor were announced by the Government yesterday.

The move came after a High Court ruling last month that ministers were exceeding their powers in official guidance to local Social Fund officers because it was too prescriptive and left insufficient scope for flexibility.

The Social Security Bill now before Parliament will be amended to clarify the powers of Mr Tony Newton, the Secretary of State for Social

Security, to exercise control over the £215 million fund.

Mr Nicholas Scott, the Minister for Social Security, was attacked by Labour for an "incompetent, cynical and dishonest" response to the court's judgement.

Mr Scott also announced that the amount allocated to the Social Fund would rise by £10 million to £215 million next month.

The fund, two-thirds of which is made available in loans, covers payments for items such as furniture and kitchen appliances for about 400,000 claimants.

## AUCTION THIS WEDNESDAY, 7.30 PM.

### MASSIVE LIQUIDATION AUCTION

As result of recent U.S. Federal Bankruptcy Court Ruling Enforcing Closure of world famous prestige New York Fifth Avenue Department Store

FINEST EXTREMELY VALUABLE CONNOISSEUR SELECTION HIGHEST RETAIL QUALITIES AUTHENTIC HANDMADE

PERSIAN, ANATOLIAN, AFGHAN, CHINESE

and other exceptional, outstanding & decorative

ORIENTAL RUGS & RUNNERS in all sizes including extra large, in Silk & Wool

Urgent attempt on behalf of creditors to clear vast retained warehoused stock contracted exclusively for world-renowned Oriental Rug Dept. of New York Store stopped in transit after Bankruptcy Court Ruling

IMMEDIATE SHORT NOTICE PUBLIC CLEARANCE AUCTION

WED., 28th MARCH, AT 7.30pm SHARP

View from 6.00pm

Due to U.S. Bankruptcy Court Decision, this outstanding merchandise stopped and retained in transit, now redirected to be sold piece-by-piece at

The Art Gallery,

THE COMMONWEALTH INSTITUTE Kensington High Street, London W8

(Opposite Odeon Cinema)

Payments Cash, Certified Cheques, Major Credit Cards

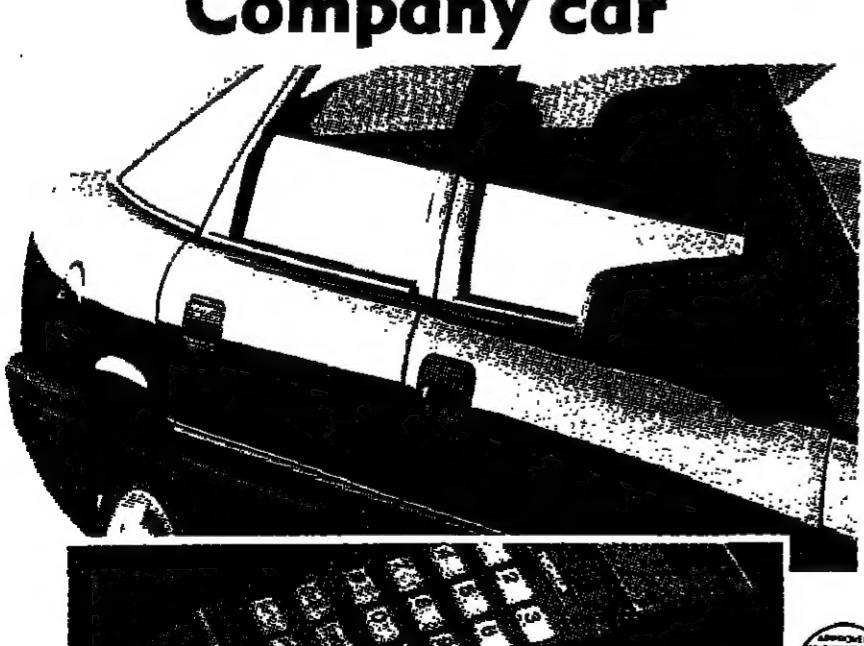
Appointed Auctioneers:

RICKENSTAFF & KNOWLES, Specialist Auctioneers

6 The Arcade, Thurlow St, London SW1 2NA.

Telephone: 01-589 7971. Fax: 01-589 2592.

## Company car



## Company car-phone



Fathers who leave children must pay

By Nicholas Wood

MEASURES intended to make fathers who abandon children meet financial obligations were announced by the Government yesterday.

They are aimed at helping 500,000 mothers who receive no maintenance payments at a cost to the taxpayer of £100 million a year.

Under an interim package, the Department of Social Security will be able to claw back from absent fathers maintenance payments made to mothers as well as to children. Single parents returning to work will no longer have to seek a new maintenance order, and the Department of Social Security will enforce unpaid maintenance orders.

## Student fund

THE ALLOWANCE for hardship cases under the Government's student loans proposals is to be doubled to £20 million a year. The "feast funds" money will be spent on students hit by the freezing of grants, the introduction of student loans and the abolition of housing benefits.

## Raid damages

MR IAN CUTTER, a freelance photo-journalist yesterday accepted £15,000 agreed damages in the High Court after suing the Metropolitan Police for damage to his property and the humiliation of a raid on his house in Upper Holloway, north London, in 1985. The police agreed to pay costs.

## Supergrass case

A SUPERGRASS with a £250,000 contract on his life was given a 27-month jail sentence by the Central Criminal Court yesterday after helping to trap a gang which smuggled £22 million of cannabis. Robert Webster, of Christchurch, Dorset, admitted conspiracy to traffic drugs.

## Car fire deaths

TWO children aged 19 months and 3 years were burned to death yesterday after the car in which they were sitting in the driveway of a house in Sale, Manchester, caught fire. Two workers who attacked the blaze with an extinguisher were beaten back by the intense heat.

## Feet first

Prince Edward walked to and from work yesterday to benefit London's homeless. It is hoped that he and many others who gave their fares or petrol money to Charity Projects' "Feet First" campaign will have raised £100,000. The money will go to agencies helping the homeless.

## CORRECTION

The first chapter of *Bab Metzia*, referred to in Rabbi Isaac Bernstein's article, "Spirit of Jewry revived", yesterday is devoted to civil law, not war as printed.

# Detectives investigate charity's tele sales

By Mark Souter

**HERTFORDSHIRE** Fraud Squad is investigating a charity which uses telephone sales techniques to raise money for underprivileged children in the Third World.

The Children at Risk Fund has been receiving up to £1,000 a day, yet to date only £150 has been given to Oxfam and little if any has gone to other charities.

Accountants have also been called in to inspect the books of the charity — set up last July — after complaints by trustees, one of whom resigned last week. Only £800 has been received in unsolicited public donations.

While there is no evidence of criminal offences having been committed, concern has been expressed at the charity's tactics. Oxfam complained to the Charity Commission at the end of January about the use of its name during telephone canvassing.

Children at Risk, based at the Spiro Building, Bridge Road, Letchworth, Hertfordshire, employs 40 staff, mainly women on a part-time basis. They are paid £4 an hour.

The charity raises money through emotive telephone sales. According to one source, employees are told they must sell at least £100 of advertising space per shift for a planned local business directory on the lines of the Thomson Local Directory. Sales staff use a prepared script when canvassing for advertisements.

"People are being deceived. They think 85 per cent of the cost of their advertisement is going to charity, and only 15 per cent is being used on administration. So far this has not been the case," the source said.

No directory has yet been produced, although one was promised within six months.

Oxfam said yesterday: "We are concerned about the operations and tactics of Children at Risk Fund and their use of Oxfam's good name."

Oxfam has asked the charity to stop using its name and for it to account for any funds received while Oxfam's name was being used.

It is believed that the Children at Risk Fund has raised more than £50,000 since its incorporation, the bulk since January when its telephone sales operation was stepped up. Mr Richard Hancock,

## Lawyers attack court work changes

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

PLANS by the Lord Chancellor's Department to allow court staff to take over a range of work from judges, including drawing up papers for "quicker" divorces, were criticized by the Law Society yesterday.

In its response to the department, the society said it would be "disastrous" to send more work down to officials at a time when staff in many courts cannot cope with the existing workload.

Nor, the society says, would it be appropriate for an administrative official to decide whether a divorce should be granted or not.

The Lord Chancellor's Department says the reforms are aimed at freeing registrars, one of the junior judicial tiers, so that they can cope with an expected rise in county court work. However, the

Law Society says courts are already struggling with high staff turnover and problems in recruiting and retaining people of the right calibre.

The Lord Chancellor's Department issued a consultation paper in January proposing that a range of work be devolved to court officials.

The society is concerned that some of the functions chosen for devolution, such as consent orders and special procedure certificates, are too "judicial" in nature to be done by administrative staff. It says there should be judicial scrutiny of the documents.

However, it backs plans to empower administrators to rule on so-called attachment of earnings orders, and other proposals, including granting administrators authority in cases involving

debt collection, were acceptable subject to strict guidelines.

• The Home Office and the Lord Chancellor's Department are expected to drop plans to replace committal proceedings with an administrative paper procedure for sending cases direct to the crown court without a hearing.

It is now believed that officials will move towards a reform of the communal system that involves a paper transfer system only if both prosecution and defence agree, while preserving the defendant's right to insist on, and attend, a formal committal hearing.

The defence would have the right to a formal committal and both prosecution and defence would retain the right to a full "old-style" committal, with statements read or evidence called.

## BBC apologizes to petrol industry over report errors

By Richard Evans, Media Editor

THE BBC apologized "unreservedly" to Shell UK and other leading oil companies yesterday for errors and misinformation in a *Watchdog* programme on petrol pricing.

The extent of the mistakes made by *Watchdog* in its consumer report broadcast on October 9 is reflected in the 480-word correction and apology the BBC has agreed to print in the forthcoming edition of *Radio Times*. A slightly shorter version will be screened at peak viewing times tonight on BBC 1 and tomorrow on BBC 2.

The BBC, which is proud of its impartial and accurate reporting, has been forced to make the embarrassing climb-down because of numerous inaccuracies and misleading statements in the item about the petrol industry and the Monopolies and Mergers Commission (MMC) investigation into it.

The *Watchdog* presenter made accusations of profiteering and collusion by the petrol retailing industry and claimed to have an unpublished interim report from the commission to support the allegations. No such document existed.

An unnamed journalist who helped to make the programme has been reprimanded but will remain in the BBC's topical features section, the corporation said yes-

terday. Shell UK had feared that the timing of the *Watchdog* report could prejudice the outcome of the commission's inquiry into the petrol retailing business.

Mr Bob Reid, chairman and chief executive of Shell UK, said yesterday: "The account by *Watchdog* of how the petrol industry is run was unbalanced and seriously inaccurate. It also misrepresented an MMC document as an 'interim report' and implied that the programme's critical and damaging conclusions were endorsed by the MMC. Subsequent developments have shown that to be totally untrue."

"We went to the Broadcasting Complaints Commission because a request to the BBC for a correction was refused. When the MMC's report appeared it showed that the case we put to the commission was irrefutable and that our request for a correction had been wholly reasonable."

"The MMC confirmed that the industry is efficient, highly competitive, operates in the public interest and gives good value to its customers."

The BBC said: "It is an honourable apology. We realized we got it wrong and we have said so. The item was unfair to Shell and the industry. When people are dealing with consumer affairs there are occasional lapses.

## TV pirates aid actors' charity

By Simon Tait

EUROPEAN cable television "pirates" have unwittingly provided £4.5 million for the welfare of British theatre performers and their industry.

A charity, the Equity Trust Fund, was set up yesterday by Equity, the actors' union, with the money contributed by cable companies in Belgium, The Netherlands and Denmark over the last six years.

The money had been paid by the companies for use of pirated programmes taken directly off transmission, and paid in fees of "moral" copyright right after negotiations by the BBC and the ITV companies.

Mr Peter Ploumire, Equity general secretary, said a third of the money paid to the television companies had gone to three bodies representing performers: Equity, the Musicians' Union and the Incorporated Society of Musicians. The sums invested annually by Equity had accumulated to £4.5 million.

The official reason for his decision flows from the abandonment of the third phase of the White City development, due to be completed in the late 1990s. Radio will now remain at Broadcasting House. A spokesman said that it was felt that a small number of headquarters staff would also be better situated in central London.

The trust fund would be concerned with performers' welfare, maintenance of the arts, particularly in the theatre, and for education and training.

## Gentle Rottweiler's lonely message for No 10

PETER TREVOR



A LONE Rottweiler named Susie at No 10 a petition containing 300 signatures. It opposed the banning of Rottweilers or making their owners obtain special licences (Robin Young writes). Plans for up to 100 Rot-

weilers and their owners to march on Downing Street to present the petition were abandoned on Sunday because they could have coincided with an anti-apartheid demonstration. As it was, Susie, during her token appearance, didn't bark a tooth or put a paw out of place.

Leading article, page 13

## Turkish kidney donors 'told lies'

By John Young

AT LEAST two Turks lied when they claimed they were not seeking further payments for donating their kidneys, the General Medical Council was told yesterday.

Mr Anthony Aridge, QC, said that when the Turks gave evidence to the hearing in December, they did not tell the whole truth because they had an interest to serve.

Mr Ferhat Usta and Mrs Hatice Antanit had instructed a solicitor with a view to bringing a civil action, Mr Aridge said.

He was making his closing speech on behalf of Dr Raymond Crockett, a Harley Street specialist who denies serious professional misconduct. Mr Michael Joyce, a urologist, and Mr Michael Bewick, a transplant surgeon, face similar charges in relation to four Turks said to have been paid for their kidneys.

Earlier, Mr Roger Henderson QC for the GMC, had said the committee should bear in mind the civil claim which might have led the witnesses to exaggerate.

Mr Aridge said the case against the doctors was unsatisfactory, most obviously because of the absence of Mr Ata Nur Kunter. Mr Kunter and his brothers have been described as kidney brokers.

What the Turks said to Mr Kunter was inadmissible and if that evidence was eliminated, the rest was circumstantial, Mr Aridge said.

The practice of paying donors had been known since 1985, but it had been outlawed only last summer. Should doctors "stay in their tents" or do they reasonably could to save lives?" Mr Aridge asked.

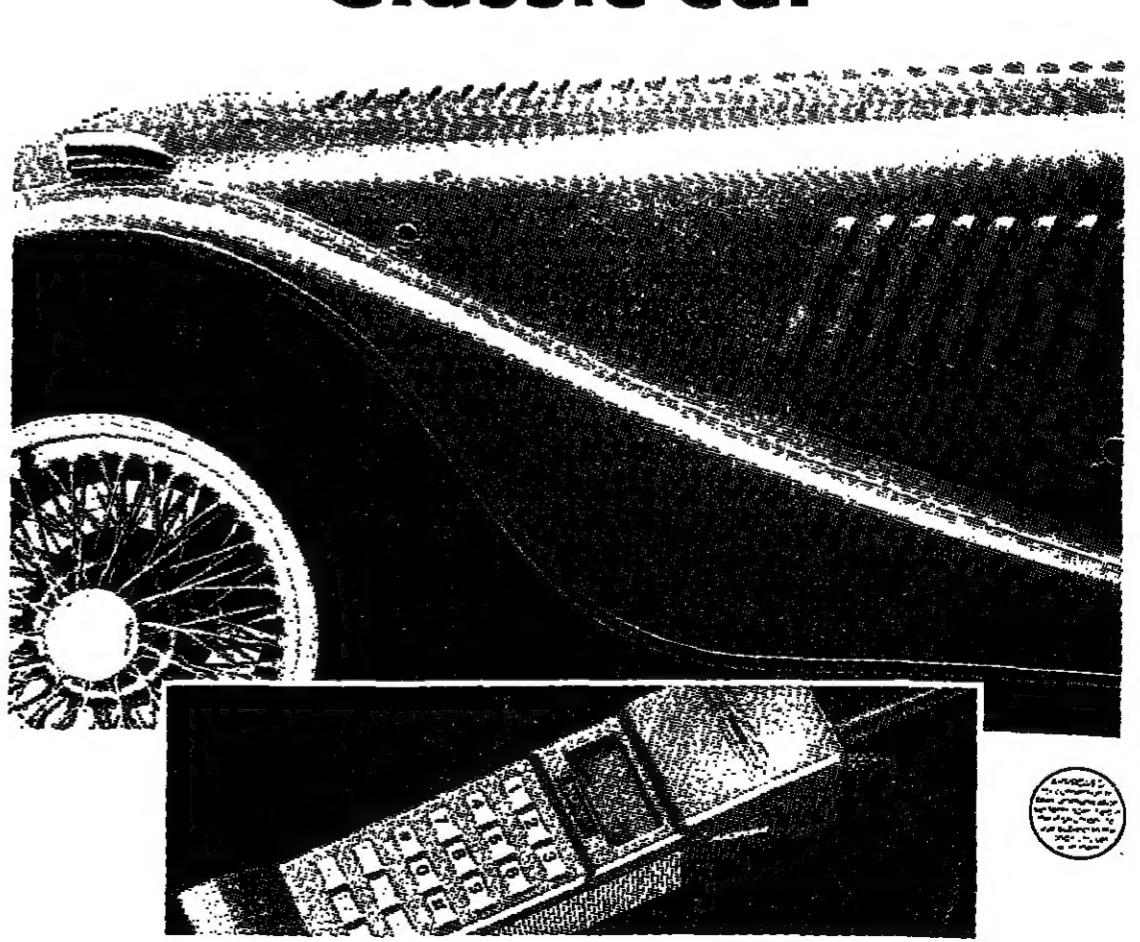
Resuming his closing speech earlier, Mr Henderson said Dr Crockett must have told "a pack of lies" about his knowledge of the relationship between Mr Ahmet Koc — who said his kidney had been stolen without his consent — and the recipient.

It would be "a monstrous wickedness" if Dr Crockett had been party to the duping of Mr Koc, Mr Henderson said. Such a thing would be unbelievable. But when it came to the payments, the committee could be certain what was going on.

It had to decide whether Mr Koc was telling an enormous pack of lies, having set out to sell his kidney, or had he been duped by the Kunters and not realized what was happening until it was too late.

The case continues today.

## Classic car



## Classic car-phone

# Contender in Runcie succession takes the Church to court

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Editor

ONE OF the leading contenders for the succession to the Archbishopric of Canterbury, the Right Rev Richard Harries, Bishop of Oxford, became embroiled yesterday in a legal action against the Church of England's paymasters, the Church Commissioners.

Sir Douglas Lovelock, First Church Estates Commissioner, dismissed Bishop Harries' claim that his intentions were friendly, adding: "It will be seen as one part of the Church taking another to court and I cannot persuade myself that that's a very good idea."

While Bishop Harries was insisting that he did not want to be Archbishop of Canterbury - and rather acting that way - another of the contenders, the Right Rev William Westwood, Bishop of Peterborough, set out a bold manifesto in yesterday's *Daily Mail*. "Whoever it is, I would offer him one biblical message," he wrote. "Be strong and of good courage."

The Church of England had become too concerned with minority interests which left it with no message "for ordinary people who are making something of their lives," Bishop Westwood added.

The next archbishop should spend less time overseas. He should "give a positive expression of Christian faith". There was a massive spiritual vacuum in the nation "and the task of any Archbishop of Canterbury at the end of this century will be to lead the church to fill this vacuum".

Bishop Harries's law suit against the Church Commissioners, of which he is one himself, concerns the extent to

which the commissioners may take ethical considerations into account in their investment policy.

Asked at a press conference about his interest in succeeding Dr Runcie, he replied: "Of course I will be joining with all other Christians sincerely praying that a right decision is made on this matter."

"I don't want the job, and I don't think it's appropriate for me or any other bishop to speculate on it."

He said the legal case was meant to be "a friendly rather than a hostile action". He had counsel's opinion to support his view that the Commissioners had a duty to follow a policy in which Christian values, rather than financial gains, were the overriding priority; and he was seeking a High Court ruling to that effect.

"We are seeking to operate with the Church Commissioners as much as possible. There is a genuine dilemma here and it's in the interests of the Church Commissioners that this be resolved." The bishop launched an appeal for pledges totalling £25,000 to cover the costs of the case.

The bishop denied the argument was only about the rights and wrongs of investing in South Africa. "Although that was the spark which forced a review of the whole investment issue, it goes far wider than that," he said. The Church of England was open to criticism for its policies regarding industry and commerce and it needed to have "a more positive attitude".

Sir Douglas, who is an *ex officio* senior member of the

General Synod, said later that the commissioners would contest the case.

"Our job is to protect and defend the parochial clergy. It is sad that we have to use the money which should be going to them to do so. But we cannot allow their interests to go by default," he said.

"I am sure Dr Harries has the most friendly of motives. I wouldn't deny that. But I don't think you can have a friendly court action. I think it's a contradiction in terms."

Another strong candidate for Canterbury, Dr Robert Eames, the *Archbishop of Armagh*, refused to give any press interviews yesterday, although as recently as last week he discussed his prospects on a local radio programme in Northern Ireland.

"It is not for anyone to say they would welcome or not welcome any challenge," he had said.

The Prime Minister had shown "at times, I think, a willingness to listen to anything that I have had to say" and to "acknowledge" it.

Dr Runcie announced on Sunday that he had submitted his resignation to the Queen, and he will retire at the end of next January, eight months before his 70th birthday.

• Mr Tony Benn, the Labour MP, yesterday challenged the Church of England to put forward only one name for Dr Runcie's successor to Mrs Thatcher for approval - and said she should endorse it without question. In a Commons motion he states that "the control of the Church of England by the state is a dangerous anachronism" that ought to end.

MR GARY BEVANS, a signwriter with no formal artistic training, with reproductions of Michelangelo's paintings in the Sistine Chapel which he has painted in the Holy Martyrs Catholic church in Goring-by-Sea, West Sussex. The church is an otherwise undistinguished prefabricated building which happens to be the same width as the original in Rome.

The inspiration for Mr Bevans's labour of love came from a parishioner's trip to Rome. The signwriter has been named Man of the Year by Worthing Council and his work has already attracted 5,000 visitors.

There has been some success in raising money for the project by asking £50 for the right to dedicate each of the plywood panels on which Mr Bevans makes his paintings, but he says he would be glad of more sponsorship.

ceiling, sometimes until two am. Michelangelo took four years to paint the original, but he did not have to earn a living by day painting pub signs and doing lettering on vans.

The inspiration for Mr Bevans's labour of love came from a parishioner's trip to Rome. The signwriter has been named Man of the Year by Worthing Council and his work has already attracted 5,000 visitors.

While the Sistine Chapel has just reopened after restoration, Mr Bevans still has many months' work ahead of him completing the only copy outside Rome (Robin Young writes).

He has worked 50 hours a week for two years on the

project by asking £50 for the right to dedicate each of the plywood panels on which Mr Bevans makes his paintings, but he says he would be glad of more sponsorship.

This win with the black pieces gave Karpov the 6½ points needed to win the best-of-12 match and ensure a renewed challenge against his arch-rival, Gary Kasparov, the world champion.

The necessity of a win made Timman take too many risks, and the game boiled down to a race of pawns on opposite wings of the board. Karpov's proved the more effective in the struggle to become queen.

Experts thought that Timman's 39th move cost him the win to which capturing a black pawn instead might have led.

The final will start in New York on October 7 and transfer to Lyons. It is likely to last two months. A prize of \$3 million (£1.8 million) is on offer. For the first time since 1948, the championship will be run not by Fide, the world chess federation, but by a neutral committee of representatives of Fide and of the Association of Grandmasters, of which Kasparov is president, and which was set up in 1986.

White Black White Black  
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2 Nf3 Nc6 29 Rf1 204  
3 Bb5 g6 30 Ne1 203  
4 c4 d5 31 Nc6 202  
5 Nf3 Bg7 32 Nf5 201  
6 f3 Nf6 33 e5 200  
7 Bf1 h5 34 Ng5+ Kg7  
8 c5 g5 35 Ng6 200  
9 Bg2 Bf5 36 Nh4+ Kg6  
10 d4 Bxg5 37 Nh5+ Kg5  
11 Nf3+ Bxh5 38 Nf6+ Kg4  
12 e5 Nf6+ 39 Nf5+ Kg3  
13 Bc2 exd4 40 Ne3 200  
14 cxd4 Nf6+ 41 Kd3 200  
15 Nf3+ Nf5 42 Kd2 200  
16 d5 Nf6+ 43 Kd1 200  
17 Nf3+ Nf5 44 Kd2 200  
18 Rf3+ Nf6+ 45 Kd7 200  
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20 Nf3+ Nf6+ 47 Kd2 200  
21 g3 Nf6+ 48 Kd2 200  
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Royal Mail

# One-day teachers' strike called after 36% back protest

By Douglas Broom, Education Reporter

ALMOST a quarter of state school teachers in England, Wales and Northern Ireland are to stage a one-day strike on Wednesday, April 4 in protest at the Government's decision to impose an 8.3 per cent pay deal.

The National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers issued the strike call yesterday in spite of securing the support of only just over one in three of its 98,000 state school members for industrial action.

In a ballot, 35,450 (61.8 per cent of those voting) were in favour of striking and 21,949 (38.2 per cent) against. The turnout was 57,399, just over half of the union's members and an eighth of the teaching force.

The result came after intense lobbying characterised by last-minute staffroom pleas by branch officials for support for the strike. The larger National Union of Teachers has refused to join in the action.

The strike call was condemned by Mr John MacGregor, Secretary of State for Education and Science,

who described it as "completely unjustified".

"I am deeply disappointed that the NAS/UWT has elected to deprive children of a day of education at what, for many, is a crucial time of the year and to do so on the positive support of only one-third of their members," he said.

"It will simply distract attention from the hard work and professional commitment which the great majority of teachers are showing and for which they deserve public recognition."

Mr Fred Smithies, the union's general secretary, said that he was confident his members would support what he termed "the minimum possible tangible protest action available to teachers".

He rejected any suggestion that the strike would antagonise parents and said: "Only those parents who wish to take a doctrinaire political view will feel aggrieved."

Teachers had to show the Government that they had "the will to resist yet another pay cut imposed on them by the Government". Dismissing

questions about the size of the vote in favour of action, Mr Smithies said: "The Prime Minister has never enjoyed more than the support of 33 per cent of the electorate and we have 36 per cent for our strike."

Two years ago the NAS/UWT had to abandon a similar attempt to get teachers to strike over pay after only just over a third of its state school members turned out to vote.

In the past the union has ensured maximum support for its industrial action by making clear that it would not hesitate to discipline members who refused to strike.

However, since the last round of teachers' strikes ended in 1987 legislation has deprived unions of the power to punish members who ignore strike calls.

Union leaders conceded yesterday that even if they managed to persuade a majority of their members to strike it was highly unlikely that any schools would be closed although several thousand children were likely to be sent home.

## Welsh craftsmanship comes out on top

NICK GOLDINGER

By Ruth Gledhill

THE devastation caused by Hurricane Hugo has opened up an unexpected source of revenue for Mr Alfred Richardson, a retired Welsh stonemason, and Mr Bill Pendleton, his colleague.

Mr Richardson, aged 65, from Prestatyn, Clwyd, was flown to Charleston, South Carolina with Mr Pendleton, aged 43, to repair a 200-year-old roof ripped apart by the hurricane on a six-bedroom house.

Mr Philip Middleton, its owner, hired the Welshmen because they possessed technical skills local labour could not match.

Their work was admired by the Prince of Wales when he saw the house on a visit to the town last month.

Mr Middleton, a lawyer, said: "I talked to any number of Americans about their capacity to slate a roof. They all told me they were experts. But I had been briefed on a couple of key questions to ask them and no American could answer those."

Mr Richardson, from Prestatyn, Clwyd, is using stones from a Welsh quarry matched to samples of the original slate. He said he had been inundated with offers of work in the historic town but his visa restricts him to working for one man.

He added: "We have had bad weather in Wales but I have never seen anything as bad as this place."



Mr Richardson (left) and Mr Pendleton at work on the roof, whose owner could not find Americans to match their skills



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FOR SOME, LIFE'S TRUE VALUES ARE EASY TO RECOGNISE

Met chief foresees women in senior posts

By Stewart Tendler  
Crime Correspondent

BRITAIN could have its first woman chief constable within ten years, Sir Peter Imbert, Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, said yesterday.

Speaking at the unveiling of a report outlining a five-year programme to provide equal opportunities within his own force, Sir Peter said: "We have some very bright and good lady officers rising through the ranks. I think we will probably see a female chief constable within the next ten years."

Mr David Waddington, Home Secretary, added that women officers had reached senior levels in two forces.

One is an assistant chief constable in Merseyside and the other an acting deputy assistant commissioner at Scotland Yard.

Last year, a Home Office circular was sent to all chief constables giving guidance on equal opportunities. Mr Waddington said.

The Home Office was looking into the feasibility of part-time work, and Scotland Yard had asked it for advice on the introduction of job sharing.

The police were having difficulty attracting recruits because of the declining number of school leavers, and the service had to recruit more women, especially from the ethnic minorities.

The report on the London programme, carried out with the help of the Equal Opportunities Commission, shows that the number of women police officers in the force rose from 6.7 per cent in 1978 to over 12 per cent in 1989, at a time when the force strength in the same period had risen from 22,197 to 28,267.

A quarter of all applicants for police jobs are now women, and they make up 24 per cent of all successful recruits. The force has nine female officers in its superintendent ranks and 38 among the inspectors' ranks.

## Bomb hoaxter jailed

A MAN was jailed for nine months yesterday after admitting sending a hoax bomb to the Queen while she and other members of the Royal family were at Sandringham, Norfolk.

At King's Lynn Crown Court, Mr Charles Kellett, prosecuting, said John Pryce-Jones, aged 58, of Rhiwau Court, Hunstanton, Norfolk, had a previous conviction for sending a hoax bomb to Mr Henry Bellingham, MP for Norfolk North West.

### £80,000 award

VISCOUNT Raynham won £80,000 agreed damages at the High Court yesterday over the death of his wife in a crash at East Rudham, near King's Lynn, Norfolk, in December 1985. The award was against the estate of the other driver who was also killed.

### Mother held

A MOTHER who admitted strangling her two children was sent to a mental hospital indefinitely yesterday. The Central Criminal Court was told that Julia Phillips, aged 31, of Limpstield, Surrey, had paranoid schizophrenia and thought neighbours were going to sexually abuse the children.

### Tolstoy delay

THE COURT of Appeal yesterday reserved its decision on whether to order Count Nikolai Tolstoy to put up £188,000 security for costs before being allowed to pursue his appeal against the libel verdict and £1.5 million damages won by Lord Aldington last November.

### Safety failing

TRANSMANCHE Link, the consortium building the Channel tunnel, was fined £50,000 yesterday at Maidstone Crown Court, Kent, when it admitted failing to take precautions to ensure its employees' safety.

### Inquest opens

AN INQUEST into the death of Farzad Bazoft, the *Observer* newspaper correspondent executed in Iraq as an alleged spy, was opened and adjourned at St Pancras Coroner's Court, London, yesterday.

March 26 1990

## PARLIAMENT

## Peers protest at move on under-18 loans

GOVERNMENT and Opposition peers protested at a late attempt to amend the Education (Student Loans) Bill to correct an oversight by civil servants over repayment by students under the age of 18.

The amendment, tabled by the Government last Friday, would exempt students under the age of 18 from paying interest on the loans and give the Government immunity under the Consumer Credit Act to send loan literature to minors.

As the report stage of the Bill started, Lord Belstead, Leader of the House, refused to withdraw the amendment, but promised peers that the Government would not seek to bulldoze it through.

Lord Clewys of Penrhos, Leader of the Opposition Peers, said that the amendment had been intended to correct a defect in the Bill because it was found to be incompatible with the Consumer Credit Act, 1974.

"The introduction of minors into

the Bill is a complex and new dimension to the whole Bill. The fact that it is unlawful to charge interest to minors was in fact overlooked when the Bill was first drafted."

The amendment was likely to affect some 100,000 students, mostly in Scotland where more students entered college at 17, and there was some unease about the accuracy of the Government's proposed amendment.

"The Opposition is asking for more time to consider all the implications of the new amendment which are very considerable, the legal implications and the administrative implications."

"I hope that the Leader of the House will now defer the amendment to enable those who are interested in this Bill to have more time. I think it is important that the House on report should be given an opportunity to consider this new development."

Lord Belstead said that the Gov-

## HOUSE OF LORDS

ernment amendment had been tabled Thursday and the Labour and Liberal Democrat Peers had been informed later that day because issues were involved which had not been debated before.

Lord Patten, chief Opposition spokesman on education, said that the way the amendment had been introduced was very unsatisfactory. The Government should not proceed at a pace which did not allow detailed consideration.

He had been told by an expert that the Consumer Credit Act was very complicated and it would be "foolhardy beyond belief" to get involved without full advice and briefing.

"This is an extremely serious matter and I am not in a position to debate this amendment today."

Lord Belstead said that it was

precisely because the amendment concerned an untitled piece of legislation that the Opposition had been informed.

Lord Beloff (C) said that he had no view on the amendment which he had only just seen.

"I would like to point out that a Bill of this kind is not simply a matter for the two main Opposition parties. If we left the House late on Thursday afternoon or early in the evening not having had an opportunity of seeing this amendment,

"I first heard about this problem when I read the report in *The Times*. I think the whole House is entitled to be informed about the Government's amendment in time at least to have a weekend to consider it and not for it to be tabled in a way which really makes the position of members and of the Opposition front bench almost untenable."

Lord Belstead said that the House

had had a weekend to consider the amendment. The Government had acted in an open and honourable way. It was right that the amendment should be considered on report.

Lord Clewys of Penrhos said that the Leader of the House was being uncharacteristically foolish. The amendment changed the Bill in a fundamental way and few had been in the House, including government peers, when it had been tabled and the whips informed.

Lord Nugent of Gisford (C) said that the amendment stretched the terms of the Consumer Credit Act in order to make an exception. That might be valid, but it would not be possible to take the Bill on its merits without considering that very complicated.

Lord Belstead said that he could not accept that the Government had acted in an unreasonable way and, for that reason, he would not

withdraw the amendment. "What we ought to do is for the amendment to be moved and to be debated and if Lords then think, having listened to the debate, that it is wholly unacceptable, then it is shown on the statute book, we must listen to the majority voice of the House. The Government will not seek to bulldoze it through."

● In a Commons written answer, Mr MacGregor, Secretary of State for Education and Science, said: I am now able to announce that, after parliamentary discussion during the various stages of the Education (Student Loans) Bill in both Houses, the Government has decided to increase to £20 million the Access Funds available for higher education.

This will give the higher education institutions greater scope for extending discretionary assistance on a flexible basis to their students. The move would have an effect, most notably, on those students who were facing relatively high costs for their accommodation.

The necessary supplementary estimates approval for the additional £20 million in 1990-91 will be sought in due course.

In a further written answer, Mr MacGregor said: I am now able to announce that the Government intends that the repayment period for students on courses that are longer than four years should be initially seven years. The standard repayment period for other students will be initially five years.

This will ensure that repayments are manageable for students on courses longer than four years who will build up larger liabilities during their courses. As the student develops and loans increase in real terms, the standard repayment period will be extended. The repayment period for students on longer courses will be similarly extended.

## Ministers act on social fund after court ruling

MINISTERS have acted to put beyond doubt that the Secretary of State for Social Security can specify who is eligible for payments from the social fund.

The move comes after a ruling in the High Court last month.

Mr Nicholas Scott, Minister for Social Security, said in a statement that he has introduced an amendment to the Social Security Bill at present before Parliament to make explicit the power of the Secretary of State to give directions on the control of the social fund, from which grants and loans are made for specific purposes to people receiving income support.

He also announced a £10 million increase in the gross allocation to the fund, to £215 million for 1990-91.

Mr Michael Meacher, chief Opposition spokesman on social security, said that the statement was an incompetent, cynical and dishonest response to the judgement.

Mr Scott said that the statement arose from a High Court judgement on applications for judicial review in three cases concerning the social fund. That had confirmed the power to give directions for control and management of the fund, and confirmed the directions on how social fund inspectors were to review decisions, but found that some aspects of the guidance on budgets was too prescriptive, and therefore not valid as guidance.

The Department of Social Security was today issuing new guidance to all social fund offices to take account of the court's decision that some of the guidance on the budget in the social fund manual had been couched in language that was too prescriptive for guidance.

There would also be guidance today about applications for review from people who might have had objections to the fund rejected on grounds of insufficient priority because of budgetary constraints. A leaflet for the public providing information on the matter was being distributed to DSS local offices.

From the date of the judgement cases should not have been refused on the basis of defective guidance, but if any application were dissatisfied with the social fund office's decision in their case, they had the right to request a review.

In the light of the judgement, he was introducing an amendment to the Social Security Bill.

Changes to the social fund scheme to be made from April 9 would mean that people over 50 might qualify for grants and loans, retaining up to £1,000 in savings, rather than £500. The amount of maternity expenses payable would increase from £85 to £100.

He had announced last year that the gross allocation for discretionary payments in 1990-91 would be £205 million, but experience of operating the loans element of the fund had clearly shown that it would be possible to use the available resources even more flexibly next year through recirculation of repayments returning to the budget.

"I am now able to increase the gross allocation by a further £10 million for 1990-91 to £215 million. This means that the gross budget for 1990-91 will be £12 million higher than the

## SOCIAL SECURITY

allocation made in April 1989.

"The £215 million will be divided to provide £152 million for grants and £63 million for loans. As in previous years, I shall be holding back £2 million as a contingency reserve."

In allocating budget to local offices, the DSS had included the value of the additional allocations amounting to £3 million made in December and January to 106 offices facing particular pressure.

All the department's 448 local offices would have a higher allocation next year and 15 per cent of the offices would have increases of 10 per cent or more on April 1989 allocations. Nearly three-quarters of them or more would get increases of 5 per cent or more.

The measures would ensure that the fund continued to be a fair and flexible scheme for those most in need (Labour Party).

Mr Scott said that no office had run out of money or was in danger of doing so.

Mr Ted Rowlands (Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney, Lab) asked whether the new guidance being issued would allow payments for housing repairs.

Mr Scott said that, apart from the Social Fund, income support could provide help with housing repairs and the Department of the Environment also had schemes.

Mrs Andrea Wise (Preston, Lab) said the minister could not know if payments were equitable if it was not known the priority given, for example, to paying for a pair of shoes.

Mr Scott said York University was carrying out a monitoring of the effect of the social fund. The report would be made next year.

Mr Patrick Thompson (Norwich North, C) welcomed the extra money, but asked how constituents who had previously been refused claims could reapply.

Mr Scott said an applicant had only to go along and ask for their case to be reviewed by the local office and that would be done in the light of the new guidance.

Mr Dafydd Wigley (Caernarfon, Plaid) called for an assurance that no top priority cases would be refused help because of lack of money.

Mr Scott replied that he could see no reason why the needs of those with the highest priority should not be able to meet.

Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark (Birmingham, Selly Oak, C) said that a problem arose if more people were in need than there was cash available.

Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolton, Lab) said Mr Scott had admitted that the amount was going to be less next year, taking inflation into account.

Would the minister confirm that if someone on a repayment of a loan in one year, that would not mitigate against him or her being offered a grant in succeeding years?

Mr Scott said that would be a matter for individual

judgement by social fund offices in the circumstances of the case.

The proportion of grants and loans was broadly the same as that for last year.

Mr Charles Kennedy, Liberal Democrat spokesman on health, said that only one in ten of offices would have increases in their budgets to keep pace with inflation and these figures were distorted because many people had not bothered to claim in the first place. They knew that any help would be in the form of a loan which would come off their benefits.

Mr Scott said it was not inflation which had to be borne in mind. It was the level of need and the flexibility with which the department was able to react.

The income support case load has gone down. It would be possible to make out a case for reducing the budget. In fact, the Government had increased it.

Dame Elaine Kellie-Bowman (Lancaster, C) asked what ministers would do if an office ran out of money.

Mr Scott said that no office had run out of money or was in danger of doing so.

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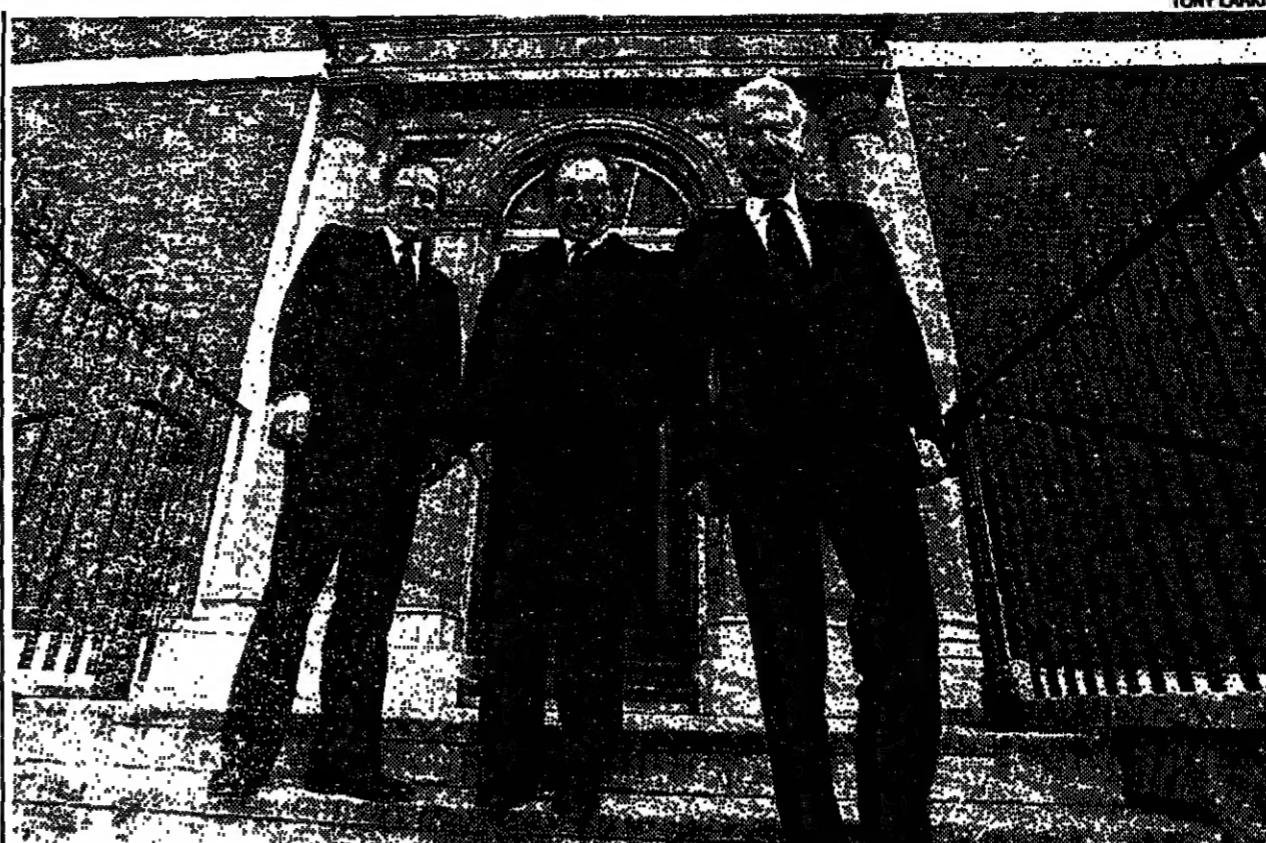
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Mr David Hunt (left), who is due soon to take up the office of Secretary of State for Wales from Mr Peter Walker (right), outside the Welsh Office in Whitehall yesterday with Herr Lothar Späth, Prime Minister of Baden-Württemberg. Herr Späth will be visiting Wales next week with a team of businessmen

## Timetable for joining ERM too leisurely, says Lawson

THE TIMETABLE envisaged by the Government for joining the exchange-rate mechanism or the European Monetary System might be somewhat too leisurely for the circumstances in which the country found itself, Mr Nigel Lawson, former Chancellor of the Exchequer, said during the resumed debate on the Budget.

"In my judgement, it is a pity we did not join some time ago, but we did not. We cannot afford to take the risks involved in a leisurely timetable."

He described non-membership of the mechanism as an exposed flank, and suggested that Britain should join the mechanism, if necessary within the wider bands of adjustment available, rather than the narrower ones.

He said that Mr Major, the Chancellor, had said that he favoured a strong exchange rate. But it might be that words alone were not enough.

Mr Michael Howard, Secretary of State for Employment, opening the fourth and final day of the Budget on the Budget, said that the past seven years had seen unprecedented growth in employment.

He said that Mr Major, the Chancellor, had said that he favoured a strong exchange rate. But it might be that words alone were not enough.

Mr Howard said that the Budget was clear: strikes destroyed jobs. Strikes, overmanning and restrictive practices exacted Britain's toll. Since 1979 there were more than 21 billion in each of the next three years.

The gap between the popular

and increasing employer contri-

## BUDGET DEBATE

started to correct those mistakes.

The future of jobs in the short term depended on pay settlements. If pay increases were awarded, they were not warranted by the competitive position of firms, the result would be higher production costs, ultimately job losses.

One of the most important factors in the growth in employment had been the enthusiasm of overseas investors to put their money into British businesses.

Overseas investors' investment in training was at a record £18 billion, and employers invested 70 per cent more employees last year than in 1984.

The benefit to the economy were to be seen in the fact that, despite an unprecedented period of economic growth, reported skill shortages last year were not as bad as had been expected.

In each of the past two years, the number of strikes was the lowest since 1935. The number of strikes in January was the lowest January figure for 60 years, and the lowest figure for any month since September 1934.

The lessons of the 1970s was clear: strikes destroyed jobs. Strikes, overmanning and restrictive practices exacted Britain's toll. Since 1979 there were more than 21 billion in each of the next three years.

He however failed to announce that the first training councils had had their plans approved and were fully operational.

With the help of the councils, the Government would be pursuing three important priorities in the coming year. First, it would continue to encourage stronger links between business and education to turn out young people better prepared for work.

Second, the Government would invest more than £400 million in that process in the next three years.

Third, the Government would look to widen the opportunities for adults to develop and upgrade their skills, particularly those that were scarce. The Government would support that with more than £2 billion in each of the next three years.

Mr Tony Blair, chief Opposition spokesman on employment, said that the Budget took refuge in addressing a number of small problems, but shrank from tackling the big problems.

The gap between the popular

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tion spokesman on employment, said that the Budget took refuge in addressing a number of small problems, but shrank from tackling the big problems.

# Lithuania keeps up guard after talks with Army

From Anatol Levin, Vilnius

A STANDSTILL agreement may have been reached between the Soviet Army and the Lithuanian leadership, members of which were yesterday cautiously optimistic about the possible opening of negotiations with Moscow.

Mr Romualdas Ozolas, the Deputy Prime Minister, said the agreement might "provide the basis for negotiations at a higher level", but he warned the country: "Don't drop your guard."

As if to reinforce his words, several military helicopters flew low over Vilnius yesterday afternoon, scattering unsigned leaflets denouncing independence and declaring that "the leaders of Sajudis seized power to fulfil their ambitions, and their aims are directed against the people".

The leaflets went on to invite people to a rally outside the parliament building at 4pm today.

Two teaching institutes belonging to the Soviet Communist Party were yesterday still occupied by troops, but students and teachers were allowed free access.

The troops, young conscripts, seemed rather bewildered and embarrassed by their role.

Talking to the press about the meeting yesterday morning between government representatives and two officers from the Soviet Army and the Ministry of the Interior, Mr Ozolas declared: "It is safe to say the most dangerous moment has passed."

The tension among Lithuanian leaders and deputies has dropped sharply since the report of an imminent seizure of parliament by the Soviet loyalist Yedinstvo movement which alarmed Mr Ozolas on Sunday night.

The two officers were sent by General Valentin Varennikov, who is with the troops in Lithuania and seems to be conducting a form of "field policy", presumably on behalf of the Kremlin.

Mr Ozolas said: "It seems that the upper echelons of the armed forces, who yesterday did not appear to have a clear line, do not want to take advantage of a situation that

they themselves created." He described this as a "breakthrough" in the fact that "both sides promised to take no action without informing the other".

The Soviet officers, meanwhile, raised the question of a Soviet soldier supposedly beaten up on Sunday in the town of Saulė, and of other Soviet soldiers "insulted".

The Lithuanian government has set up a co-ordinating group to try to avoid clashes and "provocation". It is, however, not yet clear if representatives of the Army will take part in this on a regular basis.

Seeming to have recovered from his pessimism of Sunday night, Mr Ozolas said that "talks about technicalities with the Army are not really about technicalities. They are an attempt to open up a larger question of the Army being here at all."

Lithuanian representatives were to leave last night for Moscow to meet US Senator Edward Kennedy, who is visiting the Soviet Union, and Mr Ozolas did not rule out that they might have talks with the Kremlin.

"I believe that contact with Mr Gorbachov already exists," he said, refusing to give details of what this might be.

The Soviet Army, having occupied symbolic positions in the city, and made the point that it must be consulted, seems to have no wish to take matters further for the moment.

Both sides are refraining from using their more dangerous weapons on the Soviet side, overpowering military force; on the part of the Lithuanian leadership, the calling of mass demonstration against the Army's presence in the country.

Throughout Vilnius yesterday, life continued as normal. Even the students going into their institutes past the troops on duty did so without giving any appearance of facing serious danger.

The buildings occupied by the Army on the grounds that they belong to the Communist Party would only two years ago have been of great political importance in them.

# US puts treaties on the line to deter use of force

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

PRESIDENT BUSH is prepared to sacrifice prospective arms control treaties and trade agreements with the Soviet Union if Moscow takes forceful action against Lithuania, according to a highly placed US official yesterday.

Despite the apparent easing of tension in Vilnius yesterday after the talks between senior Soviet Army officers and Lithuanian officials, the US considers that the action taken so far by Mr Gorbachov is following "a dangerous direction".

While the British Government is taking a more sanguine view of Mr Gorbachov's dilemma in dealing with the secessionists in Lithuania, Washington is now ready to adopt a much tougher approach.

So far Mr Bush has kept his public statements restrained in the hope that Mr Gorbachov would keep his promise to resolve the Lithuanian problem through dialogue, not force.

However, the US official made it clear yesterday that in Washington's eyes, the definition of force was not just "shooting people in the

streets". He said: "The Soviets may interpret force in different ways.

It would also slow down the Conventional Forces in Europe talks in Vienna, and that would rule out a summit planned for the end of the year to sign an arms treaty and to discuss the future security of Europe. American trade agreements with the Soviet Union would have to come under scrutiny because, under US legislation, trade with Moscow was linked to human rights, the official said.

British officials understand Mr Gorbachov's difficulties. He has legislation before the Supreme Soviet which would create the mechanism for secession by the republics and he needs to show a strong hand in dealing with Lithuania's unilateral declaration.

The official said it would not mean a state of "deep freeze" between Washington and Moscow. The US did not want "to make life difficult for Mr Gorbachov" but the atmosphere of trust that had grown between Mr Bush and Mr Gorbachov would be damaged.

Any attempt to crush Lithuania's fight for self-determination would have a "knock-on effect" on the arms control negotiations, now making good progress, and on the two-plus-four talks on German reunification being held between the US, the

Soviet Union, Britain, France and the two Germans.

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plained about this to parliament yesterday morning, and Mr Zigmantas Vaisvila, a leading Sajudis deputy, said:

"For two days Mr Brazauskas has been smiling — so perhaps he knows something from Moscow that we don't."

# Albanian suspects rounded up

From Dessa Trevisan, Belgrade

SERBIAN police who took over direct control in the Kosovo region began rounding up Albanian suspects alleged to have used the poison scare to launch an attack against the Serbian population while 2,500 armed Serbian policemen joined another Serbian force of 2,000 stationed in the region since last month.

Mr Radmilo Bogdanovic, the Serbian police chief, said police units were now in charge in all towns and settlements in the province.

At least 25 Albanians were arrested in the main hospital in Pristina, but many more are believed to have been rounded up, among them the medical staff in the hospital including some prominent Albanian doctors who have been treating the Albanians for suspected poisoning.

"We are identifying organizers of assaults against the Serbs as well as the perpetrators of the alleged poisoning among Albanians," Mr Bogdanovic said.

The regional police chief,

Mr Yusuf Karakushi, himself an Albanian who was largely regarded as a Serbian stooge, resigned after the Serbs accused Albanian policemen of failing to protect them and even joining the angry crowd in beating up the Serbs.

The regional presidency said in a statement the situation threatened to become tragic and appealed to young people not to listen to propaganda from either side.

A show of force was evident as Serbia took control over security while the hardline Serbian leadership went out of its way to reassure the Serbs that it would stamp out separation. It pledged to go ahead with its programme to bring in 100,000 Serbian settlers by the summer while expelling Albanian immigrants.

Western governments have already warned that such a move would have serious international repercussions, while the United Nations High Commission for Refugees has demanded further information, leaving no doubt of the serious view that would

be taken should the threat be carried out.

The mystery over the illness which has gripped 2,000 Albanians has however still not been cleared. Yugoslavia's central government announced over the weekend there was no evidence to support the claim of poisoning and accused the Albanian separatists of spreading rumors to stir up popular unrest.

Serbian politicians spoke of a new kind of psychological warfare intent on plunging the country into civil war.

But Albanian human rights activists say the suspension of regional police and the takeover by Serbia is bound to strengthen Albanian resistance.

They also discussed the



# East and West find friendship in Kremlin



President Gorbachov and Senator Edward Kennedy sharing a joke in the Kremlin. Mr Kennedy, on his fourth visit to the Soviet Union, told reporters he would be discussing arms control, human rights and economic co-operation. He also planned to meet ordinary Soviet citizens

## Voting blow to Kohl

From Ian Murray  
Berlin

THE West German Chancellor, Herr Helmut Kohl, may have scored a personal triumph in the East German elections, but things are not going so well for him at home.

On Sunday, for the first time, Christian Democrats (CDU) were beaten into second place in local elections in Schleswig-Holstein by the opposition Social Democrats (SPD). The Chancellor's rush to reunification appears to be an important reason for the narrow but significant defeat.

Deputies here were pointing out yesterday that the Estonians have for some time had a system of guards checking goods passing in and out of their republic without this having caused conflict with Moscow.

The Kremlin is still trying to increase the deep splits already existing between the Sajudis leadership and that of the Lithuanian Communist Party, by keeping open its old lines of communication to Mr Brazauskas and the old ministers, rather than to Mrs Kazimira Prusciene, the new Prime Minister.

President Landsbergis complained about this to parliament yesterday morning, and Mr Zigmantas Vaisvila, a leading Sajudis deputy, said:

"For two days Mr Brazauskas has been smiling — so perhaps he knows something from Moscow that we don't."

## Honecker treason charge dropped

From Anne McElroy, East Berlin

EAST GERMANY'S state prosecutor announced yesterday that charges of treason and conspiracy levelled at Herr Erich Honecker, the leader of the Socialist Democratic Party, reprimanded his posts within the party pending the clarification of allegations that he was a Stasi informant.

Herr Hans-Jürgen Joseph said there were no grounds in East German law to support the charges, the most serious of the accusations against the former leadership.

Herr Joseph said further charges of corruption and abuse of office would be pursued against Herr Honecker, Herr Günter Mittag, his economic chief, and Herr Erich Mielke, head of state security.

Herr Joachim Herrmann, the former media chief who was facing treason charges only, will be released from prison in the next few days.

After the announcement, Mr Ingmar Wagner, the leader of the Danish Communist Party, renewed his offer of sanctuary in Copenhagen to Herr Honecker and his wife, Margot, the former Education Minister.

The couple are known to be anxious to leave East Germany but will not be given exit visas until the remaining charges have been examined.

An attempt to move them from the vicinity outside East Berlin to a government house in the country at the weekend failed when residents attacked the van carrying the couple.

Legal experts have expected that the charge of treason was not tenable within existing East German law which defines the crime as "conspiring to overthrow the socialist order in the state".

Many East Germans believe that the change, which was brought about by the Stasi for many years as a dissident priest and as such is one of the few East German politicians to be considered above suspicion of complicity.

## Moscow seeks firmer Seoul ties

From Mary Dejevsky, Moscow

THE Soviet Union and South Korea, which established consular offices in each other's capitals last year, are to accelerate progress towards full diplomatic relations, it was announced yesterday.

The announcement was made by Mr Kim Young Sam, co-chairman of South Korea's ruling Democratic Liberal Party, at the end of a week-long visit to the Soviet Union, which he described as inaugurating "a completely new chapter" in relations between the two countries.

As a transitional stage Moscow and Seoul are to establish full consular relations.

Although the visit was technically private — at the invitation of the Institute of World Economics and International Relations — it included meetings with Politburo member Mr Aleksandr Yakovlev, the Central Committee chairman for international affairs, Mr Yevgeni Primakov, the chairman of one of the chambers of the Supreme Soviet, a deputy Soviet industry minister and many other senior officials.

Mr Kim's party included a large number of South Korean officials and businessmen.

There were reports — which Mr Kim would not confirm — that he had also been received by President Gorbachov. Given the lack of diplomatic relations between the two countries, such a meeting would be highly unusual.

Moscow is believed to be particularly interested in expanding relations with South Korea because of its status as an underdeveloped country which quickly became a manufacturing success. The fact that its products tend to be cheaper and generally less sophisticated than Japanese products adds to its attraction as an economic partner for the Soviet Union.

The current pause in South Korea's economic fortunes is

## Stalemate over European union

By Michael Knipe, Diplomatic Correspondent

future shape of Europe and the pace of further developments in the European Community.

M Rocard is understood to have conveyed the French Government's view that the European Community should open talks on political union



M Rocard: Seeking an accord by 1993

underway. "You don't need to have a consensus to start such a conference but you do need one to end it," said one Whitehall source.

Mrs Thatcher reiterated her view that the European Community should not move in the direction of greater centralized control and less democracy at the very time the greatest part of the world was moving away from such ideas.

The Downing Street talks centred on developments in Europe, German unification and its consequences for the European Community as a whole.

Earlier M Rocard had talked with Mr Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary. He also met Mr Tom King, the Secretary of State for Defence, and Mr John Major, the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

The proposal will draw a mixed reaction from the Government, which is deeply sceptical about full economic and monetary union (EMU) and vehemently opposed to any attempt to enlarge the EC Treaty to accommodate it.

Mrs Thatcher approves of nations adopting tight spending controls similar to those in Britain, but she is determined to fight the formation of central rules, which she believes would be an unacceptable loss of government control over budgetary policy.

The report from the monetary committee appears to conflict with the views of the European Commission, which takes a more conciliatory line in a paper about the costs and benefits of EMU. The Commission's report backs the concept of a single European currency, the ECU, but says governments need only be encouraged to co-ordinate their budget policies along looser guidelines, rather than be legally bound by centrally enforced rules.

EC Finance Ministers will discuss the apparently contradictory reports at Ashford Castle, County Mayo, in the Irish Republic on Saturday.

The Irish Government, which holds the EC presidency, has played down the apparently conflicting attitudes on measures to tighten governments' spending.

A spokesman for the presidency admitted yesterday, however, that "there was still a battle to be fought".

# Centre right claims poll triumph in Hungary

From Ernest Beck, Budapest

HUNGARY'S centre-right opposition party, the Democratic Forum, emerged yesterday as the country's most popular party in the first free election in more than 45 years.

With 60 per cent of the vote counted, it captured 25 per cent of the vote while its closest rival, the radical Alliance of Free Democrats, drew 20 per cent.

Results were delayed 24 hours by a computer breakdown.

Dr József Antall, president of the Democratic Forum and the likely new prime minister, said unequivocally: "We can qualify as the winner from these results and see in the second round of voting a chance to improve. This will definitely put us in the position of forming a new government."

However, Mr János Kis, a leader of the Free Democrats, also held out a possibility of leading after the second round.

"We are confident we can overtake the Forum when the final mandates for parliamentary seats are decided," he said.

The Smallholders' Party, which advocates a radical land reform programme, was in third place with almost 13 per cent of the vote, less than expected but enough to make it a power broker in forming a coalition government.

Mr Rezső Nyers, president of the Socialist Party, said it was ready to join a coalition with the Democratic Forum if asked.

However, Dr Antall said his party's closest allies were the Smallholders and the Christian Democrats, both the Democratic Forum and the Free Democrats have ruled out any Socialist Party role in the government.

The Socialists, the breakaway reform wing of the old Communist Party, made a surprisingly strong showing with 10 per cent.

But there was an embarrassing defeat for Mr Imre Pozsgay, the party's most outspoken reformer and once the country's most popular politician, who came in third behind fiercely anti-communist candidates from the Democratic Forum and the League of Young Democrats.

Mr Pozsgay said he was disappointed but not surprised. "I knew all the time I was a strategic target of many parties, so I had to reckon with such a result," he said.

## Hardship ahead on the tortuous road to freedom

From Ernest Beck, Budapest

THE newly elected government of Hungary will have little time to celebrate the return to democracy as it will inherit an economic mess brought on by years of poor central planning, communist corruption and suffocating trade ties to the Soviet Union.

Although the late Kadar years did see small openings towards a market economy, which made Hungary the showcase of Soviet satellites, economic planners began borrowing heavily to import consumer goods from the West in a desperate attempt to keep the population happy and under control.

The leftovers were poorly invested in the kind of rust-built industry always favoured by Stalin.

Now Hungary is saddled with a £13 billion foreign debt, rampant inflation of at least 20 per cent and about 50,000 unemployed. That could surge to almost 400,000 if the decrepit state factories are shut, something which the interim administration hesitated to do.

Communist policies have also produced an average monthly salary of \$110 (£68) and about one-fourth of the population living below the poverty level. All solutions will be painful but the big parties, expected to emerge victorious from yesterday's general election, are committed to capitalism and the free-market system.

Only the pace of change is in dispute. While the centre-right Democratic Forum urges a "cautious privatization" and wants the state to continue stewardship of more than 30 per cent of the economy, the more radical Alliance of Free Democrats says the state should quickly fade away and the tax structure be overhauled to allow Hungary's entrepreneurial skills to flourish.

"We need to make Hungary a nation of shopkeepers," one

economic adviser to the Free Democrats says.

Hungary must also start making things the world wants. A recent survey showed that only 30 per cent of the country's products are of sufficiently high quality to be sold in the West.

How long this transformation will take may be crucial to the nation's economic survival. There are already abundant signs of decay: 10,000 workers at the state-owned Ikarus bus and coach manufacturer were suspended last month and all production facilities closed after the Government ordered a stop to rouble exports, and 70,000 miners are working without pay because the state mining firm has nothing left in the bank.

At the same time, money is flowing in from the West in the form of more than 1,000 new joint ventures and a \$1 billion bail-out from the International Monetary Fund. However, the IMF money could be cut off if the new government reneges on promises to keep the bloated budget deficit under control and to change the double surplus to a deficit.

A new trade agreement signed with Moscow a few days ago should help to ease the imbalance, but reducing the budget deficit will be harder because the public is used to cheap subsidized services and housing. Changing them too quickly could prompt social unrest and threaten the fledgling government's stability.

Although communism will certainly be ended, the Government must move to stop old communist managers from making off with profits by selling out bankrupt state firms. Many dubious holding companies have been formed with communist heads in control. They transferred shares into their name before



Dr József Antall, president of the Democratic Forum and the likely new prime minister, flashing the victory sign at a pre-results news conference in Budapest. Early results pointed to a strong lead for the forum



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# Elections fail to overthrow old disorder

Budapest — It was a case of East meeting West on Sunday at Hungary's first democratic voting on a nation-wide scale in more than 40 years. Elections followed Western rules of fair play, but compilation of results was in the best Soviet bloc tradition of maddening incompetence.

Hungarians like to consider themselves closer to modern Western Europe than Eastern Europe, which they derisively call "The Balkans" or "Asia".

But the election and its aftermath appeared to show that the nation had some way to go in its aspirations to Western efficiency.

While international monitors expressed satisfaction with the fairness of the voting, the reporting of results was occasionally reminiscent of vaudeville.

East Germany, which staged the Soviet bloc's first democratic national elections on March 18, met the expectations of Western reporters by providing projections shortly after polls closed. Provisional final results were available five hours after the last vote was cast, with the official vote count tallied by next morning.

But the East Germans had West German computers and know-how. The Hungarians

had modern computers but appeared incapable of using them. Gleaming banks of computer terminals were on display both at election committee headquarters at Parliament and in the election studio of state television, which went live shortly after polls closed for a scheduled 24-hour broadcast, complete with an inspiring musical theme and jazzy graphics.

But computer screens remained blank. Either because of problems or just plain distrust of modern technology, election officials decided in the last minutes to tally ballots cast by more than five million people by hand and use the computers only to cross-check final results.

That, in turn, emasculated the television's computer system, which had been partially depending on feeds from the election committee's network. Red-faced commentators mumbled excuses, reading hand-scratched results of frequently obscure candidates that left viewers baffled.

Half-hearted attempts to draw on the computer were often embarrassing. A panel of experts, attempting to explain inconclusive and misleading computer data, gave up yesterday. (AP)

# Hawke poised to retain power with reduced majority

From Christopher Thomas, Sydney

MR BOB HAWKE, the Australian Prime Minister, seemed set last night to retain power with a parliamentary majority of at least two seats after Saturday's election.

The best he can hope for, it seems, is a majority of six in the 148-member House of Representatives, although Labor pollsters privately do not expect it to be that high.

The final outcome in several marginal seats will not be known until the end of this week, leaving Mr Hawke in charge of a caretaker government until victory is certain. The opposition Liberal Party refused to concede defeat, saying there was still an outside chance of a hung parliament.

Postal votes and preference allocations are being included in neck-and-neck contests in six constituencies that are yet to be declared, with results expected tomorrow or on Thursday.

Voting was again postponed at two small polling stations in the marginal Queensland constituency of Kennedy because of flooding. The polls may open today. The Liberals and the governing Labor Party have filled the area with workers in an attempt to capture the support of the remaining few hundred people waiting to cast a vote, in case they can tip the scales.

Mr Andrew Peacock, the

Liberal leader, acknowledged that his chances of taking power were slim, based on assessments of the outstanding seats.

The Australian Electoral Commission has told Mr Hawke that it expects him to retain power with a majority of at least two seats, clearing the way for him to stay on as caretaker Prime Minister. The tally yesterday was: Labor 73, Liberal-National Party coalition 68, Independent 1.

The National Party, whose strength has fallen from 18 seats to 14, is in a crisis as it awaits the expected defeat of its leader, Mr Charles Blunt, in a still undecided contest with an Independent.

There is speculation that the party, whose strength lies in rural areas, may merge with the Liberals to create a united conservative movement. National Party MPs have provisionally arranged to elect a new leader on Friday.

Although Mr Peacock is likely to be reconfirmed as Liberal leader, it is clear that he will face an early leadership contest, although no obvious successor has emerged. The Australian Democrats, too, are looking for a leader after the formal resignation of Mrs Janine Haines after her electoral defeat.

The Labor Party is in turmoil after the manning it suffered in Victoria, where the

state government is unpopular.

Mr Hawke's priority as he prepares to form a new government will be to stop Australia slipping into recession. Both he and Mr Paul Keating, the Treasurer - who is expected to become deputy Prime Minister - have raised expectations of an early reduction in interest rates.

Mr Keating said that as soon as the election result was "unambiguous" he would inform the Reserve Bank that the Government believed interest rates should be lowered.

Labor strategists believe they have achieved the near impossible by getting the Government re-elected when the economy is in poor shape. They hope that by the time of the next election, due in three years if the Government runs a full course, the economy will be stronger and Labor will be well placed for a popularity revival, just as the Menzies Government recovered after being jolted in 1961.

The Liberal Party's challenge will be to settle the leadership question. Mr Peacock's poor performance clearly played a pivotal role in the party's failure to capitalize on Labor's vulnerability, and yet there is no obvious successor. The leadership dilemma could continue to dampen its electoral prospects well into the 1990s.

## Swiss hunt £12m raiders

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

THE 40 staff of the foreign exchange department at the main Geneva office of the Union Bank of Switzerland were interrogated by police yesterday after foreign currency worth £12.5 million was stolen on Sunday.

According to Mr Henri Muuz, the bank's manager, the four armed men who entered the bank through a staff entrance after tying up and gagging two unarmed security men, went straight to the foreign exchange depart-

ment. They disconnected the alarm system and obtained the keys and codes, enabling them to open 12 safes.

They took banknotes, mostly in Swiss and French francs, Deutschmarks and sterling, leaving untouched stacks of Italian lire and African currencies. Mr Muuz denied that the bank's security system was obsolete. He said the possibility of an inside job "could not be excluded".

On Friday the bank had received "a large sum" in

banknotes from a foreign central bank. The robbery was discovered about two hours after the raiders struck when a bank computer programmer arrived to start work. He found staff members gagged and bound.

The leader of the gang was described as impeccably dressed and "wearing an expensive suit with a tie".

Police believe the robbers were across the frontier and well into France long before the alarm was given.

## Mugabe deputy's guards 'wounded rival candidate'

From Jan Raath, Harare

BODYGUARDS of Mr Simon Muzenda, Zimbabwe's Vice-President, were yesterday accused of shooting and wounding an opposition candidate who is considered almost certain to win a seat from President Mugabe's ruling Zanu (PF) Party in tomorrow's election.

Mr Patrick Komboyi, the Zimbabwe Unity Movement (Zum) candidate in the city of Gweru, is recovering after two hours of surgery on Saturday in which at least two bullets were removed from his stomach and another from his leg.

The shooting was the latest incident in the rarely publicized violence of the election campaign.

Two conflicting accounts of the shooting have emerged. The first is from Mr Mugabe, who told cheering partisans rally crowds around Harare on Sunday that the incident had been provoked by Mr Komboyi who, he alleged, had shot at the tyres of a lorry belonging to Mr Muzenda and then,

helped by other Zum supporters, had set the vehicle on fire. Zanu (PF) officials had retaliated by shooting Mr Komboyi, the President claimed.

The other account came yesterday from Mr Jerry Nyambuya, aged 32, Zum's director of elections. With his face swollen, his upper lip split and his right eye severely bloodshot, he said that Mr Muzenda's government-supported bodyguards had ambushed Mr Komboyi and shot him, his driver and four other Zum supporters.

"There is no way his (Muzenda's) bodyguards would have acted without instructions," Mr Nyambuya alleged. He also claimed that he had been abducted by the same bodyguards, beaten up, shot at on a lonely spot outside the city, and left for dead.

Mr Edgar Tekere, the chairman of Zum, which is mounting the substantive opposition to Zum (PF), said at the same press conference that the in-

## Gondoliers beat Venice drought

From Richard Bassett, Rome

THE VENETIAN authorities expressed renewed concern yesterday at the falling water level in Venice's canals. At the same time, the reappearance of algae in the lagoons has shocked the city's environmental officers.

Several of the smaller canals in the poorer part of the city behind the Church of San Trovaso near the Accademia are impassable as the result of the drought during one of the mildest Italian winters on record.

Along the larger canals, the decreasing water level has meant a comeback for gondolas, rather than bigger boats. Because the depth of the canals depends on the great rivers of the Venetian plain, Gweru has taken full control of the city with a well-organized army of youths equipped with walkie-talkies, so preventing the powerful Zanu (PF) Vice-President from conducting anything but a peripheral campaign in the city.

The lack of rain and snow in the Venetian and eastern Alps has dried up the Tatiamento, Pave and Isonzo Rivers. Usually the rivers are by now a pale blue, but even last month they were little more than parched white paths of cracked limestone.

In addition to the drought, Venice's environmentalists yesterday were confronted with the reappearance of algae on the eastern fringes of the lagoons.

The warmth of the last few weeks has enabled the algae to spread in proportions only seen in summer.

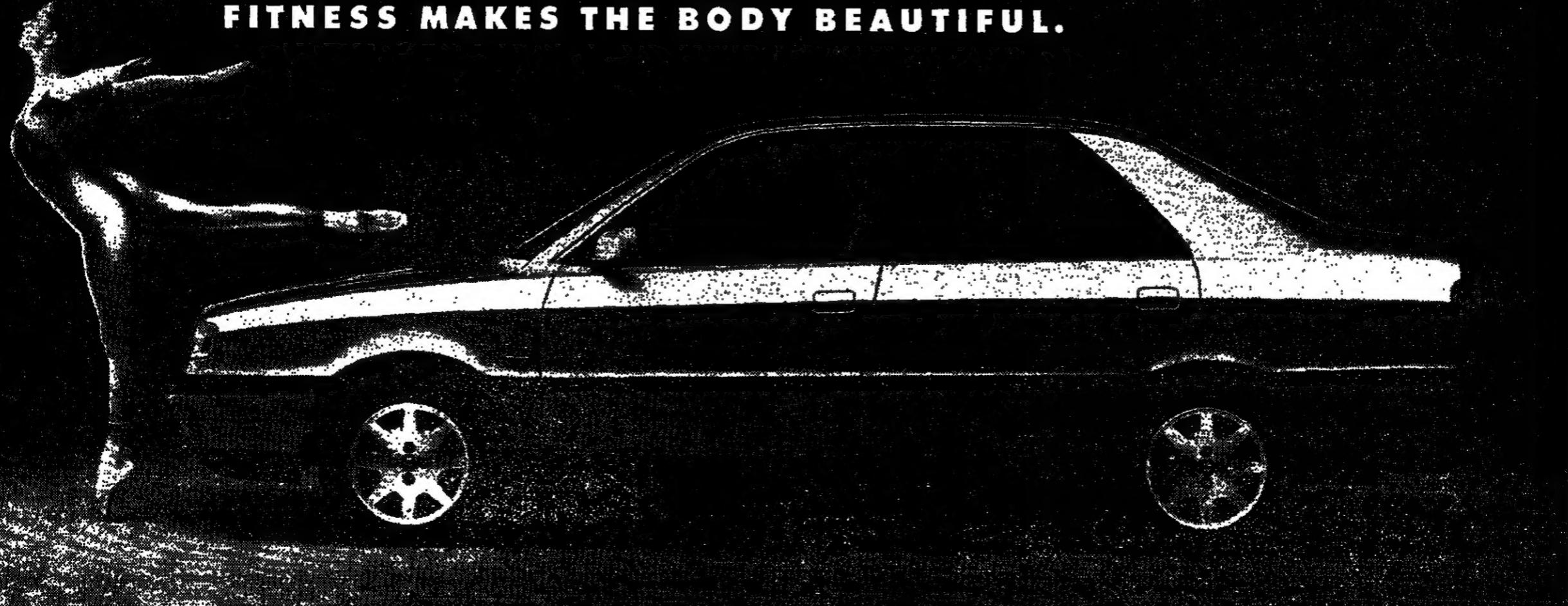
Last August, algae virtually destroyed the Italian Adriatic tourist trade by preventing would-be bathers from entering the sea.

Dr Ermilio Chiozzotto, Venice's chief environmental official, warned yesterday that this summer could see a return of the algae plague.

"We desperately need more funding to spray the algae with suitable chemicals and disperse it," Dr Chiozzotto said.

He said Venice could become an ecological disaster zone if prompt action was not taken to deal with the problem.

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# Israeli desert city fosters pioneer spirit of Soviet Jews

From Richard Owen  
Beersheba

**AS YITZHAK RAGER**, the ebullient Mayor of Beersheba, comes striding out of his office, an aide rushes up with a sheaf of airmail letters on cheap Soviet stationery.

"Look," says Mr Rager, seizing the bundle and rifling through it. "I get 2,000 of these a month, all from Soviet Jews considering living here in the Negev Desert. You know why? Because I write to them in Russian and I say to them: If you want to help build the Jewish state, don't go to the West Bank, don't even go to Tel Aviv or Haifa — come to Beersheba and be a pioneer."

The decision by Malev, the Hungarian airline, to suspend flights for Soviet Jews via Budapest because of Arab threats, has again fuelled controversy over the settling of Soviet Jews in the occupied territories.

But Israeli officials hope such

hitches will prove temporary. The flow of Soviet immigrants shows little sign of abating and estimates suggest that hundreds of thousands of Russian *olim* (immigrants) will arrive over the next two to three years. So far, most are going not to the West Bank, but to towns in Israel proper.

For Israeli planners the problem is not so much the political fallout of West Bank settlements but the profound impact Russian immigrants seem bound to have — and to some extent are having already — on Israeli society and politics.

At the Jewish settlement of Efrat, near Bethlehem on the West Bank, Mr Bob Lang, the settlement's US-born administrator, says that although the great wave of Soviet immigrants is "a dream come true", there is a limit to what a settlement like Efrat can do.

It is, in effect, a middle-class dormitory suburb for Jerusalem and the average family home there

costs £94,000. No Russian immigrant, assuming he can find a job in the first place, can hope to obtain a mortgage of more than £31,000 at the most.

The only settlements willing to take in Russians at low cost are either ideological or ultra-religious, and most Soviet Jews are barely aware of their Jewishness. As a result, many of the thousands who have arrived in recent months are confused and disoriented.

They come, President Herzog has noted, as refugees from Russian anti-Semitism, and are greeted with dances and flowers at Tel Aviv airport. But then they find there is no work for them and no housing. Many end up staying with friends and relatives in the crowded coastal strip on either side of Tel Aviv, hoping for the best.

For Mr Rager, as for other go-ahead mayors in "development towns" in Israel proper, the an-

swer is simple: attract the Soviet immigrants, nearly half of whom have high professional qualifications, to the outer fringes of the Jewish state and inspire them with enthusiasm for the Zionist cause.

More prosaically, Mr Rager, a larger-than-life businessman who was persuaded by demoralized Beersheba citizens to stand for office and revive the town, believes he can provide the two key ingredients missing elsewhere: housing and work.

For the privilege of building the future, new immigrants have to put up with present-day realities in spartan, frontier town conditions, and many Russians readily admit they have already had quite enough deprivation under communism.

"I speak to hundreds of Soviet tourists every year, and I tell them the truth," Mr Rager said, as we toured one of the new housing complexes rising from the desert scrubland, complete with an up-

to-the-minute shopping centre and four-screen cinema.

Workers and engineers, some of them recent arrivals from Leningrad and Kiev, reached out to shake his hand as he passed. "I tell them about the righteous man who goes to Heaven but cannot resist visiting Hell. In Hell he enjoys wine, women and song, and so asks for transfer. When he gets there he is tormented by demons and complains he was cheated. Ah, says the Devil, then you are a tourist, — now you are an immigrant."

For Israel, a great deal hangs on whether the new immigrants make a go of it in towns like Beersheba, or become disillusioned and leave as soon as the United States rescinds the immigration restrictions which have forced many Soviet Jews to divert to Israel.

Commentators speak joyfully of a "miracle" equivalent to the Israeite exodus from Egypt. But the corollary is that, if Israel fails

to meet the challenge, the blow to its self-image will be immense.

Planners are fully aware that, whereas the earlier development towns were settled by Moroccans, East Europeans and others only too happy to be pioneers, today's Soviet immigrants are better educated, more sophisticated, less interested in Zionism and much less willing to be told where to live.

Of Beersheba's 115,000 population, some 20 per cent are already of Soviet origin. None the less, despite Mr Rager's efforts, most of the new Soviet *olim* still prefer to join friends and relatives in the coastal cities rather than take up the challenge of the open spaces.

Mr Rager outlines a vision of a "boom town" in the desert, based on tourism, Bedouin folklore and the building industry. He has cajoled big investors from Toronto to Arizona into putting up cash. But the outcome is still in the balance.

I asked Boris Sverdlov, a doc-

## Two die as police fire on township protesters

**Johannesburg (Reuters)** — South African police opened fire on black anti-apartheid protesters in two black townships near Johannesburg yesterday, killing at least two people and injuring scores of others, according to hospital sources.

Police used shoguns and tear gas to disperse several thousand black protesters in Sebokeng and Sharpeville, witnesses said. But no injuries were reported in the Sharpeville clashes.

The townships are south of Johannesburg and about six miles apart.

A hospital employee at Sebokeng said the two dead were a boy and a girl, aged about 14.

Witnesses said up to 100 people may have been wounded by the police fire there.

"You cannot tell exactly how many were wounded; there were so many," one nurse at the hospital said.

A police spokesman said he was still waiting for reports from the scene, but confirmed there had been widespread disturbances.

The South African Press Association quoted witnesses saying at least four people had been killed by police.

Other reporters saw about 30 people, including young children, leave the Sebokeng hospital after being treated for shotgun wounds.

Many had been shot in the back, the journalists said.

The injured said they had been taking part in a march from the black township to the white city of Vereeniging to protest against high rents, housing conditions and racially-segregated local government facilities.

The police tried first to use tear gas to stop the march, which had not been given official permission under the three-year-old state of emergency. They then opened fire.

**Setback for Spanish Socialists**

From Harry Debelius  
Madrid

FOR the first time in its eight years in power, the Spanish Socialist Workers' Party found itself without an absolute majority in Parliament yesterday.

A court-ordered re-run of last month's general elections in the Spanish enclave of Melilla on the North African coast gave the colony's only seat in the Congress of Deputies to the opposition, the conservative Popular Party, eroding the Socialists' one-seat majority.

The loss of the Melilla seat, which had gone to the Socialists in the annulled ballot on October 29, left the party with 175 seats, exactly half the total in the country's powerful lower house.

However the setback is only symbolic. The Socialists retain a real voting majority because four of the seats in the Congress won by Herri Batasuna (People's Unity) — the group supporting the Basque separatist organization, Eta — have not been occupied.

Whether the four radical Basque deputies will be able to take their places depends on a decision to be made by the Constitutional Court about whether they may add the phrase "by legal imperative" to their obligatory oath or promise to uphold the Constitution.

Even if the tribunal rules in their favour, they may continue their long-standing boycott of the Spanish parliament.

The crowd pelted police with bricks and stones, according to witnesses.

After the clash, some people in the crowd reportedly tried to continue the march and stoned buses.

Municipal offices in the centre of the township were set on fire and cars overturned.

Camera crew members of the Visevnews international television agency said they saw men in civilian clothes driving through the township streets in unmarked cars firing at random with pistols.

The failed march in Sebokeng was planned as part of a march on the offices of the ruling white National Party in Vereeniging — the home constituency of President de Klerk — from nine satellite black townships.

The demonstration was forbidden by a magistrate and the town council last week.

A local police spokesman said that earlier in the day the Sebokeng police station had been stoned.

Large crowds also gathered in the other townships in the area, a major industrial centre where work was disrupted in many factories by the protest.

The demonstration was organized by groups allied to the African National Congress.

Leaders of the ANC are due to meet Mr de Klerk on April 11 for preliminary talks on ways to negotiate power-sharing between blacks and whites.

Also, 15 blacks were killed in weekend factional fighting, according to police and press reports.

Police said suspected ANC

## Law of the jungle on a city's doorstep



African drama: A rare Tawny Eagle carries a struggling frog to its nest in the Nairobi National Park, a few miles from the centre of the Kenyan capital. Most of the continent's big game, except elephants, can be seen roaming free in the park, against a backdrop of city skyscrapers on the horizon

## Tokyo bestseller fuels unease in Washington

From Joe Joseph, Tokyo

A PUNCHY Japanese diatribe against America, which has become a bestseller in Japan and enraged those who have read pirated translations in Washington, is about to anger a wider audience through an authorized English version that will give foreigners a rare taste of a new, more assertive Japan.

Mr Shintaro Ishihara, the nationalistic novelist-turned-politician, who feels Japan should map out its "post-war stepchild mentality" and tell America who really is top today, said that Simon and Schuster had agreed to publish an English edition of his book, *The Japan that Can Say No*.

The English version, due out in May, seems certain to make Japan-US relations stickier than they already are that Mr Akio Morita, the chairman of Sony, new owner of Hollywood's Columbia Pictures and the book's now embarrassed co-author, has demanded that his contribu-

tions be edited out and his name be kept off the dust-jacket.

Senior government politicians, half-way through tricky trade talks with the United States and suddenly finding themselves begging Washington for help in reviving the yen, are also chewing their nails about the likely fallout, especially since they feel Washington is looking for a bogeyman to replace Moscovy.

Mr Morita's shyness will leave the \$300,000 (£187,500) in royalties for Mr Ishihara, who has been complaining that the pirated version robbed him of his royalties.

Mr Ishihara is taken seriously in Washington, partly because he made a stab at being Prime Minister last autumn, partly because he wants another stab, and largely because he is the first member of Japan's ruling Liberal Democrats to say publicly what many Japanese

privately mutter over their beer and peanuts.

His language is designed to taunt, and it succeeds in doing so effectively.

US congressmen began howling — and questioning the loyalty of their most powerful ally — when they read Mr Ishihara's provocative statement that since America's nuclear missiles could not fire straight without Japanese semi-conductors, Japan could drastically change the balance of power by selling advanced microchips to Moscow.

Mr Ishihara also says Americans resent Japan because Americans are racist. In Japan much foreign criticism is called "Japan-bashing".

But Mr Morita was caught out by Washington's furious reaction to the book, saying it was for Japanese eyes only.

Opinions that would not travel well are traded openly in Japanese magazines and chat shows in the belief that Japan remains an island.

## Arab League defends Iraq in Bazoft row

From Michael Theodorou, Nicosia

THE Arab League yesterday rallied around Iraq in its confrontation with Britain over the execution of the Observer journalist Farzad Bazoft, but said the affair should not damage relations between Arab and European countries.

General Chedli Klibi, the League secretary, said Iraq had been fully justified in executing Bazoft and had merely exercised its right to apply the law of the land as any other state would do.

"Those who took part in the political and media campaign against Iraq ... forgot that Iraq still feels, and justly, that it is in a state of war with Iran and that it has the right to defend its security and national interests," General Klibi said in Tunis, where the League met.

Iraq called for the meeting last week to gather Arab support against British and European criticism of its decision to execute Mr Bazoft in defiance of international agreements.

Last Thursday the Arab League issued a statement condemning British news coverage of Iraq over the affair. Some Arab diplomats hoped this would satisfy Iraq and privately opposed the special League meeting, preferring that the affair be quietly forgotten.

General Klibi said: "The Arab states are keen to affirm their solidarity with Iraq, either against the tendentious campaign or in response to any possible aggression against its territory or installations."

Sunday's fighting, in which six people were killed and 12 wounded, was the worst violation of a fragile truce that halted four weeks of tank, artillery and rocket battles on March 2.

## Cuban weeps after club inferno

From James Bone, New York



Mr Gonzalez: Told police "the devil" made him do it

THE CUBAN immigrant accused of being the worst mass murderer in US history showed remorse after his arrest for starting a fire which killed 87 people in a Bronx nightclub, and broke down while being questioned by police.

Mr Julio Gonzalez, aged 36, apologized for setting fire to the Happy Land Social Club in the East Tremont area early on Sunday, and gave extensive videotaped statements to detectives. "The devil made me do it," he said.

Police said he had been ejected from the club before the fire after annoying an ex-girlfriend who worked as a cloakroom attendant there.

Threatening, "I'll be back", he picked up a plastic jug at the

club and filled it with one dollar's worth of petrol at a nearby garage.

He allegedly went back to the crammed club, threw the petrol on the floor and set light to it, the police said. His former girlfriend was one of five people who survived the fire.

After discovering that the Happy Land Social Club had been served with an eviction notice in December, Mr David Dinkins, the Mayor of New York, ordered a crack-down on illegal dance clubs.

Police sent 200 inspectors to check that clubs ordered to close had actually shut down.

Security sources said General Michel Aoun and the Lebanese Forces were apparently preparing for battle in the full day of tank and artillery clashes in Beirut and the north-east Keserwan mountains.

Sunday's fighting, in which six people were killed and 12 wounded, was the worst violation of a fragile truce that halted four weeks of tank, artillery and rocket battles on March 2.

The Israeli airline, El Al, also operates two flights a week.

## Seeds of conflict are water-borne in parched Middle East

From Christopher Walker, Cairo

WATER, or rather the shortage of it, is joining the Palestinian problem as a source of tension and potential conflict in the Middle East.

As a succession of water-related crises have shown, the gravity of the problem arises largely because the region's great rivers — the Euphrates, Tigris and Nile — rise in non-Arab countries, while those rivers on which Israel relies, the Jordan and Yarmouk, have their sources in Arab countries.

Western experts say that little has been done since.

Two-thirds of the precious water allocated to towns and cities is lost through inefficient use, such as leaking pipes, while Nile farmers use twice as much water as they

need because of poor irrigation methods.

Dr Mohammed Abu Mansour, director of the symposium, said: "One of the main reasons for the seriousness of the Nile water shortage is the terrifying increase in popula-

tion, anticipated to reach 70 million by the year 2000 (compared with 54 million now), coupled with the limited quota of Nile water allotted to Egypt."

The source of the Blue Nile is in Ethiopia, and widespread

concern was caused recently in Cairo by reports that the Israelis and Ethiopians were co-operating on schemes for harnessing its headwaters.

Mr Habib Ayub, an Egyptian geographer, has estimated that if Ethiopia does eventually tap the river Egypt could lose 20 per cent of its water supply. Military experts here have no doubt that Egypt would go to war to protect its supply.

Professor Elias Salameh, of Jordan University, said: "The demand for water is expected to increase significantly in the coming decade. In this overheated atmosphere of political hostilities ... the latent tensions may develop into domestic conflicts and expand to regional ones."

He added: "Water will determine the future of the Middle East. The population of the region will double by 2010. We will need twice as much water as we have now."

Earlier this month talks between Syria, Iraq and Turkey broke down after

# TIMES DIARY

ALAN HAMILTON

William Whitelaw retires this week from the presidency of the National Union of Conservative and Unionist Associations, and so relinquishes his last formal Tory office, although he remains the party's deputy leader. With the leader herself so besieged, it is an appropriate moment to recall Whitelaw's own prediction of how the mighty will fall. Interviewed two years ago, when the Thatcher bandwagon still had most of its wheels on, Whitelaw opined that where she stood in history would "depend entirely on how it all finishes"; he did, however, venture that she would tower over Macmillan to become a peacetime Churchill.



Whitelaw: mess mate

"But," said Willie, "there's no doubt her leadership is bound to end in a muddle, because she's been so dominant for so long. The Tory party is good at getting itself into a mess, and it will get itself into another one sooner or later — it knows how to do that." She will never, I suspect, achieve the status of her predecessor Lord John Russell; it was he who, in 1851, repealed the most despised tax of the day — the one on windows.

Visitors to Tokyo with an hour to spare have discovered an unexpected cultural bonus. The resting place of Van Gogh's "Sunflowers", sold for a then world record £24.7 million at Sotheby's in 1987, is now open to the public on the 42nd floor of the painting's owners, the Yasuda Five and Marine Insurance Company. For 500 yen (around £2) a head, the public can admire the work in the majestic surroundings of the company museum along with such other artistic plums as Cézanne's "Pommes et Serviettes" and Gauguin's "L'Allee des Alyscamps, Arles". Incidentally, the word is that Japanese corporate collectors are beginning to fight shy of paintings because of the possibility of fakes. The companies' new target is sculpture, particularly Rodin.

• Ah, how distant now seem the Sixties. A mailshot to alumni of the London School of Economics, that one-time cauldron of revolutionary thought, invites them to join the Executive World Book Club for cut-price volumes by John Harvey-Jones, Mark McCormick, Lee Iacocca and other high priests of capitalism. Oh, and they get a free filofax if they join right away.

Coincidence, of course, that the new United States ambassador to Zimbabwe arrived just as the country was celebrating the tenth anniversary of its independence, an event I shall forever associate with Angela Rippon's absurdly over-enunciated reading of the news about the Rev Ndadambane Sithole and his guerrillas. It is less of a coincidence that, as part of the celebrations, many street names in Harare (*née* Salisbury) have been changed from those of white colonial heroes to



Rhodes to oblivion

leading lights of the freedom war. Citizens of all colours are vastly amused that James Rhodes, a black man, was due to take up residence at the US embassy in Rhodes Avenue, named after the only begetter of white Rhodesia. Fortunately for all sorts of sensibilities, Rhodes Avenue has just become Josiah Tongogara Avenue, after the general commanding Robert Mugabe's Zanu forces, who died in a car crash shortly before the war was won.

Dustmen in Bonn have been given the additional duty of reporting motorists who park their cars in the way of dustcarts, a task which will doubtless do their Christmas boxes no good at all. The edict coincides with the German capital's publication of its annual league table of diplomatic parking tickets. Two countries with only three official cars each came top and bottom: Cape Verde collected no tickets at all, while Angola notched up 62. The Poles, despite having 80 vehicles, stayed commendably within the law and emerged second best. Britain and the United States tied for third place with 0.17 offences per car. But I fear that the Vatican, which last year boasted an entirely clean record, fell to fourth place when its sole diplomatic car picked up one parking ticket. Naughty Nuncio Nabbed, as the papers with small pages might say.

**THE farrago so far. An Englishman who failed to have his head examined has arrived in France with a vanload of his old furniture. He has been stopped at the Calais pier by two policemen who wish to see the import licence he has not got. Because he has not got it, they wish to see the old furniture. Last Friday, we left them opening the doors. Ten seconds have passed; you may now read on. (All conversation has been roughly translated from the even rougher original.)**

"Lo, the old furniture!" I said. They craned towards the loosely piled chairs, tables, sofas, rugs, pictures and boxes of odds and ends. Given the pitifulness of all such deracinated stuff, I could not see how their hearts could fail to melt. Homelessness is ever poignant, even in a kettle. "This is not for sale?"

Again there is a significant Thatcher factor in the Tories' slump in the polls. To a number of Tories, therefore, the intriguing element in Labour's weekend lead of up to 28% was the suggestion that, with Michael Heseltine as leader, the gap would close to 10%.

Mr Heseltine is all the vogue. But in a situation rich with ironies, there is nothing more likely to ensure there is no change of leader. Although a fighter not likely to lay down the leadership at the first whistle of a grapeshot past the ears, Mrs Thatcher would contemplate retirement if she became convinced that she was the one true impediment to re-election of a Tory government. If the question of the succession were an open contest she might just bring herself to consider going. But with Mr Heseltine appearing unstoppable, there is nothing, senior colleagues say, further from her mind. She would not willingly hand over to someone who, in her view, would revive all that she has fought against — corporatism, interventionism, over-cautious Europeanism.

Forget the calls for Mr Heseltine to become party chairman. She will not have him, and he would not want to give up the freedom to take his Thatcherism *à la carte*. Do not expect him

either to sign a new oath of loyalty to Mrs Thatcher and all her works. For a man who walked out of her Cabinet in disagreement with her methods, it would make a living lie of his past three years of endeavour. Hence yesterday's careful response to Sir Geoffrey Howe.

What Mr Heseltine prays for is that others will put Mrs Thatcher under irresistible pressure to go. He does so for two reasons. First is the traditional fear that he who wields the dagger rarely inherits the crown. The second is that were he to challenge and succeed, he could inherit a party so bitterly divided that it would be unable to lead this side of a general election.

It is a notion sedulously spread by party managers anxious to keep down the hysteria and avert a leadership contest this autumn. But how Thatcherite is the party today?

New and intriguing light is cast by Philip Norton, Professor of Government at the University of Hull, in the latest *Par-*

*liamentary Affairs*. After assiduous study of division lists and public statements, he offers a detailed breakdown of Tory MPs which could influence the sums on a leadership challenge.

There are three sub-groupings, he says, that can be identified under the Thatcherite group label.

Thirty are core Thatcherites,

free-market and pro-hanging:

Michael Brown, Christopher Chope, Robert Dunn, Timothy Eggar, Michael Fallon, Anthony Fawell, Michael Forsyth, Eric Forst, Teresa Gorman, Andrew Hamilton, Neil Hamilton, Sir Peter Hordern, Gerald Howarth, Timothy Janman, Robert Jones, Ivan Lawrence, Edward Leigh, Francis Maude, John Moore, Michael Portillo, John Redwood, Nicholas Ridley, Peter Rost, Angela Rumbold, Richard Shepherd, Allan Stewart, Norman Tebbit, Margaret Thatcher, John Townend and Ian Twinn.

Professor Norton lists 26 right-wingers who emphasize law and order issues:

David Atkinson, Vivian Benfield, Sir Rhodes Boyson, John

Carlisle, Alan Clark, Edwin Currie, Terence Dicks, Sir John Farr, George Gardner, Peter Griffiths, Michael Grylls, Ralph Howell, Andrew Mackay, David Maclean, Gerry Neale, James Pawsey, Barry Porter, Sir William Shelton, Sir Trevor Skeet, Ivor Stansfeld, Sir John Stokes, Tedd Taylor, William Walker, John Ward, Kenneth Warren and Ray Whibley.

And there are 16 of free-market views but anti-hanging: Nicholas Bennett, John Biffen, Sir Richard Body, Nicholas Budgen, Sir William Clark, David Heathcoat-Amory, Alan Howarth, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Norman Lamont, Nigel Lawson, Peter Lilley, Peter Lloyd, Paul Marland, Roger Mordaunt, Tim Renton and Ian Gow.

In categorizing the rest of the party, Professor Norton identifies 17 "populists":

Anthony Beaumont-Dark, David Gilroy, Bevan, Sir Nicholas Bonser, Winslow Churchill, Denis Conway, Des Dovet, Sir Marcus Fox, Richard Holt, Dame Eluned Kelllett-Bowman, Dame Jill Knight, Anthony Clarke, Nigel Forman, Roger Freeman, Tristan Garel-Jones, Patrick Ground, Keith Hamp-

son, Christopher Hawkins, Sir Barney Hayhoe, Michael Heseltine, Terence Higgins, Douglas Hogg, David Hunt, Douglas Hurd, John Lee, Sir Nicholas Lyell, Michael Mates, Robert McCrindle, Norman McCampbell, Colin Moynihan, Richard Needham, Stephen Norris, John Patten, Sir David Price, Timotheus Rathbone, Peter Thurnham, William Waldegrave, Dennis Walters and Timothy Yeo.

Although some might quarrel with their categorization, we are left with 72 firm Thatcherites (19 per cent of the parliamentary party) and 67 "wets" and "damps" (18 per cent). Of the remaining 217, says Professor Norton, nearly 200 are party loyalists, on whom the whip can normally rely, and 20-30 are personally loyal to Mrs Thatcher.

Professor Norton's argument is that the Thatcherites are in a minority and do not dominate the party infrastructure. Because Tory leaders have absolute control over policy as well as patronage, whatever the direction the new leader wishes the Conservative Party to take, there is little to prevent him or her achieving that goal... Mrs Thatcher has not crafted a party that is inherently Thatcherite in terms of attitude and composition. Loyalty will flow to the new leader as leader, regardless of which particular section of the party he or she is drawn from."

Robin Oakley on a new study showing Thatcherites in a minority

## How the Tories divide

## Taking spin on the autoroute



ALAN COREN

"Cricklewood," creaked the dressing-table softly to the sofa. His colleague eased the wrapping from a picture. It was a Bill Tidy.

"It is an original?" "It is a cartoon," I said. Did you know that there are two words for cartoon in French?

*Carton* means a Leonardo, *Dessin* means a Bill Tidy. It's amazing the things you can find out from a gendarme, especially after a long hysterical explanation to the effect that Bill Tidy is alive and well in Solihull, thinks that the Quattrocento is a small flat, and knocks out a dozen of these a day.

But it was all right. They sucked their teeth, they sniffed, but they finally conceded that none of this stuff was going to destabilize the French fine art market. They were about to hop

down again when one casually lifted a dust-sheet, and paused. "It is new, this table of ping-pong?" he said.

"No," I said, "it is ten years old."

"It has the air of the new," said the copper. "Let us descend it."

They descended it to the road, and set it up. We might have been in one of those short, grainy Czech films: *Two Policemen and a Ping-Pong Table*. Passing drivers gazed. "What is this that this is?" you felt them mutter. A charity match? *Avis Vans v. La Sierte*, saving the whale?

"It is simply that we have never used it," I explained, "but they

shook their heads and opened one of those fat, ring-bound books common to all customs men wherein everything is written concerning dues, attachments and proscriptions acent chiming barometers, vivarium decor, funnel-paint, and hatsbands (feathered). This they thumbed for some time.

But, miraculously, tables (ping-pong) had no entry. You could anchor a tanker off Brest and unload 10 million tables (ping-pong) with equanimity. So they ascended it again. They nodded brusquely. I climbed back into the cab.

"Good game?" said Mrs Coren. I watched them dwindle in my mirror. Each was scribbling furiously.

"I have the feeling," I said.

"that the last duty-free ping-pong

table has just entered France."



1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone: 01-782 5000

## THE BALTIC AND THE WEST

The West has watched with admiration and alarm the sang froid of the people and Government of Lithuania in the face of President Gorbachov's unsable attempts to intimidate them. Yet the European Community and the United States have formulated no strategy for deterring what appears to be a crudely signalled Soviet *prusch* in Vilnius. The Kremlin might be forgiven for interpreting hesitation as the result of the same self-interest which led democracies to appear undemocratic opponents half a century ago.

It is nevertheless difficult to suggest concrete measures which a medium-sized power like Britain might take, without prejudicing its wider interests, to deter Soviet military intervention on the Baltic seaboard. Military action, even of a demonstrative kind, must be ruled out as hopelessly counter-productive.

Indeed, the official news agency, Tass, is already claiming that Nato warships have arrived in the Baltic. The Soviet propaganda offensive which would certainly accompany the overthrow of President Landsbergis would obviously make the most of Western subversion, in order to render more plausible Lithuania's alleged threat to Soviet security.

Economic sanctions would be equally counter-productive. The objections are familiar: inefficiency of enforcement, the improbability of a united front, the imperviousness of national politics to external economic aggression. West Germany, which has so much at stake in detente with the Soviet Union, would be unlikely to agree even to consider sanctions, despite ties with the Baltic states going back to the Teutonic Knights.

The Government cannot credibly threaten Moscow with anything more daunting than the traditional contempt of the British for the bully. Yet the Soviet President's credibility with the West is now on the line in Lithuania. Words, carefully chosen, may weigh less on the scales of international politics than guns or butter, as Mr Gorbachov knows better than most. His first friend and foremost defender in the West, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, is the person best qualified to administer the warning that if the Soviet Union tramples on the Lithuanians' right to self-determination for the second time this century, he will cease to be "a man one can

do business with". There is no shortage of advice urging the Prime Minister to go easy on Moscow in this dispute. Apart from pro-Soviet voices on the left, who until recently used similarly spurious arguments to justify Soviet hegemony over central Europe, the most impressive argument for leaving Mr Gorbachov to his own devices in the Baltic states has come from Lord Home. He argues that it is in our interest to deal with a single, strong Soviet leadership. A weakened, let alone a toppled, Gorbachov would be a greater threat to Britain in the long term than a crushed Lithuania.

Yet even the most robust view of British interests must be inseparable from the values for which this country made such sacrifices half a century ago. The Baltic states were among the victims of the Nazi-Soviet alliance, which made Hitler's conquest of the European mainland possible; a conquest that obliged Britain first to fight alone, then to accept Stalin as an ally even while aware of his hideous crimes.

The Lithuanians have at last begun to heal their wounds. This they can only do if the Soviet authorities admit the illegality of its annexation and all that flowed from it.

Under the 1939 Ribbentrop-Molotov Pact, Lithuania — unlike Latvia and Estonia — was assigned to the German sphere of influence. Only after the German invasion of Poland was Lithuania reassigned to the Soviet sphere in exchange for a partition of Poland more favourable to Germany. Is it conceivable that Britain, which has never recognized Soviet sovereignty over the Baltic states, would fail to excommunicate such bullying of Lithuania from the Germans? If not, present Soviet conduct should be treated as equally unacceptable.

British mandarins tried long and hard to make excuses for Stalin. Behind Mikhail Gorbachov, the ghost of Uncle Joe can still be seen stalking the Kremlin — and haunting some corridors in Whitehall. The Prime Minister, who last week used President Havel's visit to exorcise the spirit of Munich, can dispose of this demon too. She should leave Mr Gorbachov in no doubt that his claim to moral superiority over his predecessors depends on his treatment of Lithuania.

## COLD COMFORT IN THE COMMUNITY

The National Health Service and Community Care Bill inspired a revolt in the House of Commons earlier this month and now starts what is likely to be a rough passage through the House of Lords. For once, its troubles concern not the health service but the second half of its title, community care.

The principle of the measure is sound, that responsibility for the elderly, disabled and infirm should pass "into the community", from local health authorities to local councils. The change was meant to represent a more humane and flexible approach, and for once it showed Government confidence in elected local authorities. But the whole issue is now engulfed in the storm surrounding the poll tax.

So far, the grants councils will receive from central Government will include an amount calculated (but not designated) to cover the extra cost implied by the care legislation. But it has not been "ring fenced", that is to say, earmarked for this exclusive purpose.

The extra cost of community care will, in consequence, have no special claim, but will have to take its place in the queue alongside other calls on expenditure. Since in most areas, councils are desperately seeking to hold down poll taxes, all budgets are being squeezed. The Association of Directors of Social Services has expressed acute alarm at the consequences.

Unless the Government can find some new means of protecting the implementation of its measure, some of the most vulnerable members of the community will be the first victims of the poll tax, as care for them passes across the financial divide between central and local government. There is a special poignancy about their predicament. The ideal of placing more emphasis on community rather than custodial care was correct, reducing the role of old-fashioned, state-administered institutions in favour of families and communities.

Yet the result may push a rising number of

the mentally or physically handicapped, ill-equipped to survive outside institutions without support, into a custodial wilderness. The intended transfer of funds from the big health service institutions to smaller ones run by local councils and to home-based welfare services risks becoming a fiasco. A report by the Audit Commission last autumn criticized the two groups of administrators for their failure to work together.

Now the poll tax issue is focussing attention on resources, in an area where value-for-money is notoriously hard to define. Clearly a policy of care in the community will be a cruel joke if not properly administered and funded with cardboard cities substituting for Victorian asylums.

The Government drafted the community care clauses of its present Bill with the best of intentions. Unfortunately, these intentions have coincided with the first year of the poll tax. What should be an overall improvement in care may actually be a drastic worsening.

Certainly, community care should not be more expensive in the long run. But the transitional period, when big institutions must remain available while alternatives are built and staffed, is likely to cost more. Unless this is reflected in the level of local council grant, the Government will be guilty of willing the end while withholding the means.

There are signs that the Government has accepted the political necessity of softening the impact of the community charge on individuals. It should also soften the impact on those for whom the community has to care, by protecting the services on which they depend. The Government does not like the device of ring fencing. If so, it must find another way of guaranteeing that money intended for society's most vulnerable people reaches its destination. This is a far better destination for the millions apparently available to buy off Tory backbenchers with poll tax rebates.

## DOGS OF WAR

The danger of Mrs Thatcher being literally savaged by her critics was narrowly averted yesterday when a march by Rottweilers to Downing Street was cancelled. Four owners wisely decided discretion was the better part of canine honour and handed in a petition at Number Ten instead. They feel that they are being victimized by public opinion.

The real question is whether the nation is being tough enough. The Kennel Club points out that only three people actually died from dog bites in the first nine months of last year (none in 1988 and only one in 1987). That is minor comfort to victims of ferocious canine assaults, many of them infants. There is no conceivable reason to permit fierce animals to add to the number of vicious dangers faced by children, just because they are classed as domestic pets.

The dearth of reliable statistics is the most formidable of the chicanes erected against human fear by defenders of canine freedom, but the pendulum is swinging in the humans' favour. Legislation was tightened last summer, to give magistrates powers not only to order dangerous dogs destroyed, but to nominate a specific executioner and fine severely owners evading the court's sentence. Such penalties, imposed after the event, still offer little solace to savaged victims.

The Dog Handling Act of 1975, requiring dogs to be permanently tethered except when with an experienced handler, applies only to guard dogs on commercial premises. Dogs such as Rottweilers are perfectly free to roam at will. Two recently wandered into a school and savaged a number of children. The growth in the number of these dogs is reported to have "peaked", but the total runs into many

thousands. They are unstable, potentially lethal and quite unsuitable as free-ranging family pets. Fashions in fearsome animals certainly change. Twenty years ago the Dobermann Pinscher was top of the villainy league and the pit bull terrier — a mongrel bred for fighting — is fast overtaking the Rottweiler.

The danger from these dogs is not imagined. They are frequently used by criminals who regard them, with good reason, as anti-personnel weapons obtainable free of licence under cover of domestic pets. Since they are potentially as dangerous as explosives, guns or unsafe motor vehicles, the Government's reluctance to legislate to control them is extraordinary. It is the more so when even the Kennel Club is in favour of municipal dog wardens to police every kind of aberrant behaviour, from fouling pavements to biting legs. The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals has called, at very least, for a registration scheme. Polls have shown that more than nine people in 10 would be in favour of more stringent controls.

Even this would not deal with the dangerous breeds. It should be a criminal offence to allow certain named breeds out of doors without muzzles or leads. There is also a strong case for including dogs bred for their ferocity, such as Rottweilers, pit bull terriers, and crossbreeds bearing their genetic imprint, within the Dangerous Animals Act of 1976. This covers several hundred wild creatures, from gorillas to spitting cobras or giant ant-eaters. Those who insist on keeping fierce or dangerous animals under cloak of domesticity should no longer be indulged. They are a potential menace to the community and the law should regard them as such.

## Probation officers in self-defence

*From the Chief Probation Officer, Middlesex Area*

Sir, In drawing attention (report, March 23) to the Commons Public Accounts Committee's report on the Home Office's control and management of the probation service, you highlight the rise in prison sentences, but fail to mention that this was arrested in 1988. The proportionate use of custody for 17 to 20-year-olds peaked in 1985 and declined dramatically in 1989, to the extent that young-offender institutions are being closed.

In the Middlesex area the magistrates courts' use of custody for 17 to 20-year-olds fell from 13 per cent in 1985 to 6 per cent in 1988. This was the second highest rate of decrease in England and Wales. There were also substantial reductions in the magistrates courts' use of custody for adults, while crown court centres in the area are among those making least use of custody.

This is particularly noteworthy because Middlesex has no day centres and the absence in some areas of day centres is singled out by the Public Accounts Committee as evidence of the probation service's failure to provide the courts with an effective range of non-custodial sentencing options.

The Home Office is proposing wholesale changes to the organization of the probation service, all with the common theme of establishing firmer control from the centre and ironing out diversity. As justification for this misguided centralism, ills are being attributed to the service which cannot be demonstrated.

The probation service is daily offering the courts detailed, carefully-designed programmes for supervising individual offenders in the community; the courts are responding by making orders on increasingly heavily-convicted offenders; and the probation service is supervising the great majority of

those without breakdown or risk to the public.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN WALTERS,  
Chief Probation Officer,  
Middlesex Area Probation  
Service,  
4th Floor, Glen House,  
200 Tottenham Court Road, W1.  
March 23.

*From the Secretary of the Central Council of Probation Committees*

Sir, You report the Commons Public Accounts Committee as stating that "social inquiry reports... have apparently been used as alternatives to fines". This is based on a misapprehension.

Such reports, which are of a factual nature, are requested by the court to assist in the sentencing process. Inspectors can be blamed for many things, but the suggestion that "some probation inspectors have created friction with the courts" does them too much credit.

HM Inspectorate of Probation is quite inadequately resourced to undertake effectively all that is required of it by way of monitoring individual services and the dissemination of information and good practice guidelines. We have long urged upon the Home Office the need for a strong and vital inspectorate which, if properly resourced, would assist in the development of effective services throughout the country.

We welcome the recommendation of the Public Accounts Committee that the inspectorate be strengthened and that there should be better arrangements for the prompt dissemination of good practice, as well as its recognition of the vital balance between the autonomy of local probation services.

YOURS FAITHFULLY,  
EUAN MILES, Secretary,  
Central Council of Probation  
Committees,  
38 Belgrave Square, SW1.  
March 23.

## Research constraints

*From Dr Tony Rees*

Sir, Your obituary (March 22) does less than justice to Lord Rothschild's intention in proposing, in 1971, that Government departments should be given the money and made responsible for commissioning applied research from the research councils.

It is clear from the text of his report, "The organization and management of government R & D" and also from his subsequent evidence to the House of Commons Select Committee on Science and Technology that his concern was not that "too much money was spent on open-ended research and too little on solving industrial problems". Indeed, he goes out of his way in the report to assert that the question of balance between the two cannot be meaningfully addressed.

I was associated for 35 years with one of our longest-running data banks on the effects of environmental changes in the sea. This series had already shown the biological effects of rising environmental temperatures in the period from 1920 to 1960 and their reversion during a period of cooling from 1962 to 1981. We were well poised to show further changes if global warming accelerated; but all work ceased in 1987 when the NERC withdrew funding.

He argued that the research councils are well qualified to decide priorities for basic research, but not as well qualified to decide what the needs of the nation are as those responsible for ensuring that they are met. Hence, decisions on the priorities for Government-funded applied research should be in the hands of the accountable departments.

Rothschild was certainly over-optimistic if he thought that all the departments could readily be made good customers for commissioned research, and the Government of the day was perhaps remiss in not giving them strong incentives to consider research on long enough time scales and with appropriate priority in times of economic decline. Nevertheless, as one who was closely involved with the consequences of the funding transfers, I believe that there were benefits to the nation and to the research bodies from the clearer lines of responsibility that resulted from his recommendation.

It is clear from the continuing debate that the way in which Government supports research is not yet a closed question. Rothschild's contribution was to clarify one of the important issues; we should analyse and use the results of the experiment he started.

A. I. REES,  
(Coordinator for Commissioned  
Research, Institute of Oceanographic  
Sciences, 1974-89),  
PO Box 63, Godalming, Surrey.  
March 23.

tempted work to this end, some of them having over 70 years' data. Many of the compilers of these records have seen their efforts nullified in the past 10 years by cuts in Government support for such "open-ended" projects.

Many of these schemes came under the remit of the Marine Science Division of the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC). Granted Mrs Thatcher's genuine interest in plans to monitor changes in the environment, it is unfortunately too late to start new time-series to study global warming without baseline data.

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Yours faithfully,  
DAVID EVERSLY (Honorary  
Planning Adviser, Hertfordshire  
Conservation Society),  
Hunstanton, Norfolk, Hertfordshire.  
March 23.

*Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (01782 5046).*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Effect of British Library's cash loss

*From the President of the Library Association*

Sir, The Minister for Arts and Libraries announced in November that the British Library was to have an extra £1 million towards the cost of planning for the move into its new building next to St Pancras station and nearly £3 million on the grant-in-aid, a welcome addition after several years of reductions in ac-

quisitions.

This is no way to ensure the maintenance of the stock and services of one of the world's three or four greatest libraries, which ought to be a major source of national pride and which is the envy of almost every other national library (so much so that the French have decided to spend much greater sums of money on a new Bibliothèque de France).

The Treasury's decision seems quite extraordinary. It creates serious financial problems for the library; it defeats its attempt to plan its future sensibly and cost-effectively; it does damage to the rest of the nation's library system, and it evidently goes against the intentions of the minister. It would be illuminating to know how such a decision came to be made and approved.

It affects nearly all the nation's libraries, which have suffered continued and serious reductions in their own funding and depend more and more heavily on the British Library's services.

MAURICE B. LINE,

President,

The Library Association,

7 Ridgmount Street, WC1.

*From the Chairman of the Open Spaces Society*

Sir, A Diary item and a letter on the opposite page (March 17) show that motor sports are invading the world's tranquil places, from the byways around Bath to a 3,000-mile length of the Great Wall of China.

In the wilds of deepest Dorset I have found myself having to step aside, on what was technically a road but in reality an overgrown footpath, to let a line of boy racers file through on their trial or trial bikes (both terms seem to be used).

The sole legal justification for this is being a byway on an Enclosure Act award from the days of horses and carts. Such green lanes retain their pastoral character until they become the playground for an assortment of bizarre motor vehicles which share the common characteristic of looking unroadworthy and being untaxed.

Here the usurpers of ancient highways must not be allowed to have it both ways. If, as they maintain, they are using public roads, then their motor cycles and cars should be licensed, insured, and maintained in the same way as they have to be on "real" roads. Yours faithfully,

RODNEY LEGG, Chairman,  
Open Spaces Society,  
25a Bell Street,  
Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire.

*From Mr George Laurence*

Sir, Mr Cheal (March 17) regrets that the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 allows a "Rupp" (road used as a public path) to be turned into a "Boat" (byway open to all traffic) on the sole criterion of historical evidence... regardless of the desirability or practical suitability of the change.

There are a number of points to be made about this:

1. Designation of a way as a Rupp or as a bridleway under the Countryside Act 194


**COURT  
AND  
SOCIAL**
**COURT  
CIRCULAR**
**KENSINGTON PALACE**

March 26: The Duke of Gloucester this evening presented architectural awards at the Annual General Meeting of the Westminster Society which was held in the Great Hall of Westminster School, London, SW1.

Major Nicholas Barne was in attendance.

**YORK HOUSE**

March 25: The Duchess of Kent arrived at Gatwick Airport, London, this morning from the United States of America.

Mrs Alan Henderson was in attendance.

March 26: The Duchess of Kent, as a Trustee, this evening attended a Soirée Musicale in aid of the Jacqueline du Pre Me-

**Forthcoming  
marriages**
**Mr P.S. Bligh  
and Miss J.E. Lawrence**

The engagement is announced between Peter Bligh, only son of Mrs Dorothy Bligh, of Minehead, Somerset, and Juliet Elizabeth, youngest daughter of the late David Lawrence and Mrs Jane Hogg of Fawley, Oxfordshire.

**Mr M.G. Ditchian  
and Miss S.M. Corr**

The engagement is announced between Mark, only son of Mr and Mrs M.G. Ditchian, formerly of Chorleywood, Herts, and now of Great Missenden, Bucks, and Sarah, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs G.C. Corr, of Bath, Avon.

**Mr D.R. Meschut  
and Miss C.L. Savan**

The engagement is announced between David Randolph, son of Mr and Mrs P.F. Meschut, of Dix Hills, New York, and Sarah Caroline, eldest daughter of Rear Admiral and Mrs Christopher Bevan, of Chelsea.

**Mr E.A. Moller  
and Miss C.L. Conway**

The engagement is announced between Richard, only son of the late Mr Dennis Moller, and of Mrs Marie Moller, of Nairobi, Kenya, and Clare, daughter of Mr and Mrs Anthony Conway, of Coldharbour, Dorking.

**Major R.J.G. Whitelaw  
and Miss L.A. De Jean**

The engagement is announced between Robert John Gordon, son of the late Mr and Mrs E.W. Whitelaw, of Strathearn, Ross-shire, and Lesley Ann, daughter of Mr and Mrs D.S. De Jean, of Crail, Fife.

**Marriage**
**Mr A.C. Radford  
and Miss L. Parry**

The marriage took place on Saturday, March 24, at St Michael's Church, Waddington, Lincs, of Mr Anthony Radford, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Patrick Radford, of Langford Hall, Newark, to Miss Lynda Parry, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs William Parry, of Waddington.

The bride was given in marriage by her father and Mr Jonathan Radford was best man.

A reception was held at The White Hart Hotel, Lincoln, and the honeymoon is being spent in Thailand.

morial Fund at St James's Palace, London SW1.

Mrs Peter Troughton was in attendance.

The Prince of Wales has accepted an invitation to be president of the Royal Agricultural Society of England for 1990-91. He takes up the new position in October.

**Today's royal  
engagements**

THE QUEEN will hold an Investiture at Buckingham Palace at 11.00.

The Princess of Wales, as Patron of the English National Ballet, will attend the company's fortieth anniversary gala at the Albert Hall at 7.40.

Prince Michael of Kent, as patron, will attend the Hyde Park Appeal luncheon at the Household Cavalry Barracks at 12.30; and will present the Royal Aero Club Awards at the Lansdowne Club at 5.30.

**Luncheons**
**Prime Minister**

THE PRIME MINISTER was host at a luncheon held yesterday at 10 Downing Street in honour of M. Michel Rocard, Prime Minister of France. The other guests were:

The French Ambassador, Mme Elisee, M. Philippe Pauchant and Mr Charles

**EU Government**

THE HON Douglas Hurd, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host yesterday at a luncheon given by Her Majesty's Government at Lancaster House in honour of delegates to the UK-Japan 2000 Conference.

**Royal Over-Seas League**

THE HIGH Commissioner for Botswana was the guest of honour at a luncheon held yesterday at Over-Seas House, St James's, hosted by Sir Lawrence Byford, chairman, and members of the Central Council of the Royal Over-Seas League.

**Canada UK Chamber of  
Commerce**

M. BRIAN FALL, British High Commissioner to Canada was the guest of honour and speaker at a luncheon given by the Canada-UK Chamber of Commerce yesterday at the Merchant, Piccadilly, Mr Michael Lowe, president, presided. The Deputy High Commissioner for Canada was among those present.

**Dinner**
**Houses of Lords**

LOD Whitelaw CH, MC, last night hosted a small dinner party in the Counsel's Dining Room, House of Lords, to launch the Chest, Heart and Stroke Association's Appeal to found a Professorial Chair in Stroke Medicine at Nottingham University. Those present were: Lord Somers, Lord Alton, Peter Fincham, Mr Barry Pomeroy, Wendy Matthews, Dr Richard Surtees and Mr Tim Thevenet-Healy.

**Requiem mass**

REQUIEM Mass for the repose of the soul of Sir John Pitcher, GCMG, will be celebrated at the Church of the Most Holy Redeemer & St Thomas More, Cheyne Row, Chelsea, on Thursday, March 29, at noon.

**Latest wills**

Mr Jerome Orwya Fane De Sals, of East Woodley, Hampshire, left estate valued at £1,003,133 net. He left his estate mostly to his wife.

The bride was given in marriage by her father and Mr Jonathan Radford was best man.

A reception was held at The White Hart Hotel, Lincoln, and the honeymoon is being spent in Thailand.

The City solicitors Simmonds and Simmons have undertaken to bear the cost of subscribing to European law journals over five years for the Bodleian Law Library at Oxford. The initiative, the first of its kind made possible by a donation from the Deutsche Bank Foundation, will be associated with the West European Centre at St Antony's College. It will be named in honour of the first President of the European Commission, Professor Walter Hallstein.

A new fellowship for European Studies is to be established at Oxford. The post, which will be made permanent as a donation from the Deutsche Bank Foundation, will be associated with the West European Centre at St Antony's College. It will be named in honour of the first President of the European Commission, Professor Walter Hallstein.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS &amp; PERSONAL

Jesus said to her: 'I am the resurrection and the life; whosoever lives and believes in me, never dies.' John 11: 25-26.

## BIRTHS

**CARTWRIGHT** - On March 21st at The Portland Hospital, London, to Nicolle (née Greenly) and Andrew, a daughter, Olivia Anna. Mother and father are well and father is recovering well.

**CHILD-MILLERS** - On March 24th, in Kent, to Alexander and Linda, a son, Benedict, a daughter, Olivia Anna. Mother and father are well and father is recovering well.

**CROOK** - On March 20th, to Gwyneth and Peter, a son, Rufus. John Donald, a son, for Jamie and Robert.

**CROZIER** - On March 21st 1990, to Susan (née White) and John, a son, Alexander John, a daughter, Sophie.

**DACEY** - On March 23rd, to Jacqueline (née Macnamara) and Christopher Richard, a son, Michael Howard Christopher.

**DAVIES** - On March 19th, at Ramsey, in Wales, to Nicky (née Richard) and David, a daughter, Arabella. A son, Alexander John, was born to Carolyn and Ludovic, a daughter, a sister for Nicky and Nicko.

**DEWING** - On March 23rd, at St Thomas' Hospital, to Alison (née Cotterell) and Ben, a son, Michael Sebastian. Emily Elizabeth.

**DEFERS** - On March 22nd, at The Portland Hospital, to father, Dr Colin, and wife, Robert, a son, Alexander Robert.

**GERALD** - On March 17th, to Geraldine (née Matlock), a son, Tony Sam, a brother for Victoria.

**HANNAH** - On March 20th, to Susan (née Chalmers) and Brett, a daughter, Emily Sophia, a sister for Charlotte.

**HEDDERLEY** - On March 13th, 1990, at St George's PC Hospital, to Arthur and Julia-Anne, a son, Burton, a daughter, Sally Jordan.

**HOBSON** - On March 17th, to Anne (née Reed) and John, a son, Edward John.

**JOLLIFFE** - On March 13th, 1990, to Dawn (née Phelps) and Gordon, a son, Callum Fergie.

**LAWRENCE** - On March 24th, to Cheyul (née St Pier) and Tricia Lambeth, of South Lodge, Walsborough Green, Sutton, a son, Daniel Peter, for Oliver.

**PERRY** - On March 23rd, to Jane and Hugh, a daughter, sister for Tom, Matthew, Adam and Christopher.

**POTTER-MINTY** - On March 6th, 1990, in London, to Brian and Sophie (née Rend), a son, Michael James. KAREN - See Pott-Potter.

**PUTTLE** - On March 23rd, at The Portland Hospital, London, to father, Stephen and Fiona, a son, a daughter, a brother, Jamie Patrick Hayes.

**SAUNDERS** - On March 13th, to Charles Saunderson, of Los Angeles, USA, a daughter, Jenny Johnson.

**SOUTHERN** - On March 23rd, in California, to Julie (née Riker) and Andrew, a son, Matthew Henry Ritter.

## GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

**COVENTRY-SMITH** - On March 27th, 1940, at Bromley Oratory, London, Frederick to Lois, by Rev. C.C. Martindale.

**MOWER WHITE/EARSTWOOD** - On March 27th 1940, at St. Margaret's Church, Paddington, a son, Peter, brother to Jane (née Earstwood) at 401 Elm Tree Court, Elm Tree Road, London, NW8 9JT.

## DEATHS

**AMBERSON** - On March 23rd 1990, at Teddington, Mary Traviss, formerly of Merton, Surrey, died. Daughter of the late Edward and Eva Ambrose, of Handsworth, Ontario, Sister of the late John and Carol Ambrose, of London, Ontario. Mother of James and Justin. Served with the Canadian Red Cross. Funeral Service at St. John's Church, Teddington, Monday April 2nd at 2.30 pm, followed by cremation at Vicars Chapel, Chapel Lane, Teddington. It is desired to give British Diabetic Association to K.B. Sills Ltd, Kenwood, High Street, Cranbrook, Kent, tel 0708 712264.

**ANDREW** - On March 21st suddenly while on holiday in Portugal, Anne of Forest Row, Sussex, beloved wife of the late Alan Andrew, who sadly died last year. Alan and deeply loved wife of Pauline and Liz. Funeral Services at Trinity Church, Forest Row, on Monday April 2nd 1990, followed by burial in Forest Row Cemetery. Funeral Directors Ltd., Tel 0422 556565.

**BUXTON** - On March 22nd, peacefully, after a long illness, aged 90 years, Isabella Miller Brand, widow of the late Alfred Miller, grandmother and great-grandmother. Will be greatly missed by her family and friends. Crematorium on Friday April 6th at 3 pm. Flowers to be sent to the Chapel of St Thomas' Church, Brighton.

**CHAPPELL** - On March 23rd, in hospital, at Folkestone, Kent, Kathleen (née Kay), formerly of Baslow, a much loved mother of Warwick and mother-in-law of Jan, died. Son, George, and Benjamin. Much loved sister of Rita and a dear aunt. Interment at Great Longstone Cemetery, Baslow, on Friday April 6th. Flowers to be sent to the Chapel of St Thomas' Church, Brighton.

**DALE** - On March 23rd 1990, peacefully, in Hove Clinic, Hove, to his wife, Dorothy, Beloved stepmother of Roy, and donations for The Heart Foundation may be sent to John Heath & Sons, 100 New Bond Street, London, W1.

**DEWEY** - On March 23rd, at Bedford Hotel, Brighton. Beloved stepmother of Roy, John Gordon, a loving stepfather of 12 children. Grandmother of great-grandchildren. Funeral Service at Hove Cemetery, Old Shoreham Road, on Thursday March 22nd, at 1.15 pm. Flowers and enquiries to S.E. Skinner & Son, 100 New Bond Street, London, tel 0171 604064.

**EASTER** - On Friday March 23rd, aged 64, after a long and peaceful illness, Jean, died. Beloved mother of Shirley and Gillian, mother-in-law of Leanne and Mark. Funeral at Hove, tel 0171 604064.

**FARRELL** - On March 23rd, at 2pm, Jane Margaret, above, second daughter of Rupert and Caroline and Richard and much loved son of Shirley and Gillian, mother-in-law of Leanne and Mark. Funeral at Hove, tel 0171 604064.

**GARRETT** - On March 23rd, in hospital after illness, born with great courage, Dorothy, Mary, Carol and Linda. Beloved daughter of the late Mrs. and Dorothy, sister of Jane and Peter. Funeral Service at Eastbourne Crematorium on Wednesday March 28th at 1.20 pm. Flowers to be sent to the Chapel of St Thomas' Church, Brighton.

**HARRISON** - On March 23rd, at 2pm, Jane Margaret, above, second daughter of Rupert and Caroline and Richard and much loved son of Shirley and Gillian, mother-in-law of Leanne and Mark. Funeral at Hove, tel 0171 604064.

**HOLMES** - On March 23rd, at 2pm, following a short illness, to his wife, Dorothy, Beloved stepmother of Roy, and donations for The Heart Foundation, tel 0171 604064.

**HORN** - On March 23rd, at 2pm, following a short illness, to his wife, Dorothy, Beloved stepmother of Roy, and donations for The Heart Foundation, tel 0171 604064.

**KELLY** - On March 23rd, in hospital after illness, born with great courage, Dorothy, Mary, Carol and Linda. Beloved daughter of the late Mrs. and Dorothy, sister of Jane and Peter. Funeral Service at Eastbourne Crematorium on Wednesday March 28th at 1.20 pm. Flowers to be sent to the Chapel of St Thomas' Church, Brighton.

**LEWIS** - On March 23rd, at 2pm, following a short illness, to his wife, Dorothy, Beloved stepmother of Roy, and donations for The Heart Foundation, tel 0171 604064.

**MCNAUL** - On March 23rd, at 2pm, following a short illness, to his wife, Dorothy, Beloved stepmother of Roy, and donations for The Heart Foundation, tel 0171 604064.

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## THE ARTS

## Sisters and mothers

**TELEVISION**  
Sheridan Morley

FOR *Cutting Edge* (Channel 4), Polly Bide and Helena Kennedy had a remarkable film on Sister Elaine Roulet, a Catholic nun in New York who spends much of her time reuniting children with their imprisoned and often murderous mothers. Within Bedford Hills maximum security prison she has set up a family centre. That is all the more impressive, given the brutality of a system where, elsewhere, prison guards sometimes train their guns on visiting children.

No one doubts the guilt of these mothers – indeed one coolly confessed to camera the murder she had committed. But Sister Roulet's point is that they still have small children who need parenting, children who have been known to break into gaol, in an attempt at reunion. Sister Roulet has fought the local Westchester community, which objected to the children of prisoners being moved into the area, and she has now found more than 100 local households willing to put up the kids while they visit their mothers.

All moral judgments apart, it is surely evident that children should not be punished for the sins of their parents. Separation while in prison is just such a punishment. But, in Sister Roulet's view, the stigma of parental imprisonment is somehow lessened by regular contact. Her work ought surely to be examined in some detail by penal reform commissions over here.

On *Panorama* (BBC 1) Ian Smith was looking at the increasing tension between developers and conservationists as the greening of Britain becomes more and more apparent. Not that this is always a good thing: the white cliffs of Dover now appear to be turning green as a direct result of engineers' interference, thereby necessitating not only a rewrite of the Vera Lynn lyric but also serious objections to the Channel Tunnel, which is causing all the trouble.

Conservationists perceive the regionalization of the Nature Conservancy Council as a tardy governmental attempt to censure it, and they could well be right. Meanwhile, Magnus Magnusson talks of "healthy creative tension" between developers and preservers. I have started, so I'll finish.

Hermann Prey, making a London Wagner début this week, talks to Barry Millington

## Birdman of Nürnberg

When Hermann Prey takes the Covent Garden stage on Thursday night as the town clerk, Beckmesser, in John Cox's production of Wagner's *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*, he will be rising once again to one of his favourite challenges. The pedantic critic, Beckmesser, who steals the heart Wahn's song in an attempt to get the girl, is one of the least-lovable characters in opera.

But according to Prey, the traditional way of playing him – as a shambling, imbecile buffoon – is wrong. "As the *Stadtschreiber*, or town clerk, he would have commanded respect; he is the one professional man among the Masters, the most educated, the only one with Latin." He is also head of the police and therefore the superior of the Nightwatchman, which makes it richly ironic that after the riot, which he has unwittingly provoked by his serenading, he has to hide from the Nightwatchman.

Prey believes that Beckmesser should therefore be played and sung with dignity, and quotes Wagner on the subject. After the first performance in Munich in 1868, Wagner wrote to the Vienna conductor Heinrich Esser, complaining that the singer who had created the part, Gustav Holzel, had made Beckmesser into a buffoon. He should be as serious as the other Masters: only the situation in which he finds himself makes him appear ridiculous. Prey believes that Beckmesser's romantic infatuation with Eva also makes him act irrationally.

When did Prey evolve this interpretation of Beckmesser? Was it for his famous appearance in the role at Bayreuth in 1982, in Wolfgang Wagner's production? "No, I had it in my mind long before." In the 1960s, he had been singing Wolfram in *Tannhäuser* for Wolfgang's brother Wieland. "One day you will be my Beckmesser," Wieland had said. But Wieland had died in 1966.

Not for another 15 years was Prey invited to Bayreuth to tackle the role. He told Wolfgang Wagner that he wanted to make the character quite different from the traditional caricature.

Did Prey not find a contradiction between such a sympathetic portrayal of the character and the nature of the music Wagner gives



Hermann Prey in rehearsal on stage at Covent Garden as Beckmesser in *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*

him to sing? "It is certainly very difficult to sing, but I try to sing it beautifully, like *Lieder*. For some people, it may be too beautiful."

At Wagner is only a small part of Prey's repertory. In particular he is known for his Mozart, and has done all the baritone roles. Which gives him the most pleasure? The answer is a surprise: "Papageno". He has played the amorous bird-catcher all over the world, and is due to do so again this summer. "A 60-year-old Papageno. Not bad, eh?"

He has not been seen at Covent Garden as much as many people would have liked, and not at all, in opera, in recent years. The last production in which he appeared was that of *Die Fledermaus*, first seen in 1977. Prey repeated his Eisenstein in the first couple of revivals, but latterly his place has been taken by Thomas Allen. He has, however, given no fewer than five *Lieder* recitals at Covent

Garden, as well as at the Wigmore Hall, the Royal Festival Hall and the Edinburgh Festival.

Was he, then, devoting more of his time to *Lieder* these days? "Yes, I'm doing less opera now. There's another generation of directors and conductors coming up", he adds obliquely, by way of explanation. The idea of the Schubertiade, which he founded in Hohenems, Austria, in 1976, has been taken up elsewhere. In Vienna a similar project is in its sixth year and in New York in its third. Two more are planned, in Würzburg and Japan. In each place, the idea is that Schubert's whole oeuvre – the orchestral and chamber music as well as the songs – is performed in chronological order over a period of 10 years. The beauty of the concept, as Prey enthusiastically points out, is that the music "gets better from year to year", as the master-works of Schubert's maturity are approached.

He clearly has a special affinity with Schubert, who "long ago became the centre of my life", and to prove it he tells a curious anecdote. Thirty years ago, when he first learnt the song-cycle *Winterreise*, he found that, try as he might, he always made the same three mistakes – small matters of rhythm and text-setting. One day, when he was allowed to study the autograph manuscript in the Pierpoint Morgan Library in New York, he found, to his amazement, that at those same points, Schubert had originally written what he had been singing. He had unconsciously been reproducing Schubert's first thoughts. "I did wonder then if there was some connection between heaven and earth."

• Performances of *Die Meistersinger* are at the Royal Opera House, Floral St, London WC2 (01-240 1066), opening on Thursday, and then on April 3, 6, 9, 12, 16.

## Dissolving the borders

## WORLD MUSIC

David Toop

Ryuichi Sakamoto  
Dominion

"THIS is my first concert in London since YMO days," said Ryuichi Sakamoto, referring to a long-past performance given by his Japanese techno-rock trio, Yellow Magic Orchestra. "I'm a bit nervous," he admitted, "but excited." The audience had some cause to be nervous also, since trans-global musical fusion (an idiom in which Sakamoto is increasingly involved) can fall flat when transferred from the recording studio to the stage.

Sakamoto has discovered heart and feeling, though, and has discarded the role of Japanese technocrat. He calls his music "outer nationalism", a Utopian art without national boundaries, and cheerfully confesses to the personal re-awakening of hippy idealism that this suggests. Aside from the ideals, this was no hippy show. The organization of a musically and technically complex two hours was virtually faultless.

At centre-stage was Youssou N'Dour, the remarkable singer from Senegal, and to one side were

two diminutive Okinawan women in kimonos. They compensated for being the smallest musicians on stage by consistently stealing the limeight. This they accomplished by singing raucous, nasal folk melodies, emitting shrill rhythmic whistles and playing plangent-toned Japanese stringed instruments called sanshins.

On the other flank was a hyper-active percussionist, beating numerous noise-makers from Brazil and Africa. These four, with a drummer, bass-guitarist and guitarist, Sakamoto and star session musician Nicky Holland playing keyboards, produced a lush, exotic and hard-hitting sound. At times, N'Dour's crying vocals blended eerily with the keening of the Okinawans and the strange timbres of electronically sampled ethnic instruments. At its most extreme, the cultural range traversed history as well as the globe. While the Okinawans played a repeated folk melody on their sanshins, Sakamoto answered with tragic chords that could have come from the pen of Mahler. The effect was moving and hypnotic.

The greater part of the set was taken from Sakamoto's superb new album, *Beauty*, but for an encore he chose to play his theme for *The Last Emperor*, describing it as one of his best hits.

## Right up at the front

## RECITAL

Paul Griffiths

Ixion  
PURCELL ROOM

Finnissy himself, as conductor, won tense, active support from the accompanying sextet. Fiendishly imaginative within a single, driven state, ending with a sour, delicious twist, this is altogether a remarkable piece.

The scoring of its accompaniment, for oboe and clarinet, cello and double bass, and two trombones, provided the ensemble for Toovey's new *Adam*, where the subtlety of Finnissy's instrumentation is exchanged for bald oppositions of pairs, often in rudimentary and aggressive gestures. There were calmer moments of much greater accomplishment, sometimes with the woodwinds sliding over one another, but again the antithesis between these and the nasty bits was brutal.

There was also a pretty shocking contrast between the Toovey and the other Ixion member's piece, Clapperton's *The Parliament of Four Fatuit Beasts*, which takes its title from Robert Henryson and suggests, in bagpipe-ish doodles for piano, oboe and cello, what Satie might have done if he had gone back to discover his roots.

## Lies a-mouldering?

Alasdair Cameron

John Brown's Body  
Tramway, Glasgow

IT IS only after reading John McGrath's programme notes that his purpose in creating *John Brown's Body*, a musical march through the past 200 years of Scottish labour history, becomes clear. It is to show us that there is still a need for socialism.

In the play, however, this is far from obvious. In fact, since it begins in a green and pleasant pre-industrial "merrie Scotland" where the women are washing their blankets in a stream, and ends with a denunciation of late 20th-century consumerism, the prevailing message seems to be essentially Luddite.

This is only one of a number of contradictory messages. Although McGrath again makes the right noises in the programme about the mistakes of the communists in Eastern Europe, in an unchallenged meditation a WRFA officer wonders if Britain shouldn't be run like Stalin's Soviet Union. The ideas lies dormant for a while and then returns when a caricatured Lech Walesa is used to lambast the Poles for embracing the American multinationals. There is no attempt to ask why, just the blanket assurance that it is a bad thing. The motto seems to be: "If you see a difficult question, raise it and run". This sense that he is

dodging major issues is further heightened by McGrath's Olympian disdain for every form of socialism except, one assumes, his own. The play therefore has a decidedly pessimistic and hopeless end, which seems to hint at a dangerous power vacuum in which the working class can trust nobody.

But the essential problem is that the jolly format of songs interspersed with Dave Anderson's lovable clown routine as the "Lumpen Proletariat" means nothing can be examined properly. At the heart of *John Brown's Body* there are exciting ideas about the growth of modern industrial society. Though a 30-minute, rather recherché examination of 19th-century forms of punishment does pall, it is infinitely more interesting than the caricatured parade of Tories and class traitors which goes before and after.

The staging of the show, borrowed in equal measure from Ariane Mnouchkine's *1789, Starlight Express* and *Les Misérables*, is interesting, although the audience risk cracking their necks. The music, apart from a couple of awful sub-Weill songs is excellent, sung and played with a conviction that is lacking in some of the acting.

But it is about time McGrath stopped concentrating on making his good nights out even better and went back to challenging us and making us think.

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## Sacrifice of play for stars

## THEATRE

Diane Hill

Quelque Part dans cette vie  
Les Bouffes Parisiens

Jane Birkin: halting French

LIFTING a play out of one language into another can be done by faithful translation, skilful adaptation, or unashamed re-creation. Jean-Loup Dabadie opts for re-creation in his handling of *Park Your Car in Harvard Yard*, a two-hander by the American contemporary playwright Israel Horovitz.

Reworked and directed as *Quelque Part dans cette vie (Somewhere in This Life)*, by Dabadie – who is better known as a writer of songs, sketches and film-scripts – this hard-baked, *Angst*-laden slice of Uncle Sam becomes a mid-Atlantic, sentimental round of tea-time bread-and-butter on which to spread the jam of having the illustrations of Dux and Birkin on stage together.

Like much of Horovitz's work, *Park Your Car in Harvard Yard* (the title is the American equivalent of the elocution jingle "The rain in Spain") takes an unblinking look at 20th-century social problems. The message is that learning opens the doors to the good life, while being deprived of it leaves one forever looking through the keyhole.

Jacob Brackish is a retired teacher whose forte during his working life was awarding zero marks to those he considered to be intellectual riff-raff, in order to scotch their university chances. After receiving a zero, Kathleen Hogan becomes his live-in housekeeper, seeking vengeance.

Dabadie's excessively clever dialogue batters over the play's dramatic depths. The glib one-liners raise laughs, but reduce Horovitz's savagely drawn characters to pasteboard cutouts. The story unfolds not as a series of emotional tableaux, but as a concertina of stilted images.

His direction, too, is a curious sort of pop-up theatre. The two characters take up positions around the stage without much structured movement in between. There is a strong impression that Dux and Birkin have been left to their own devices, though the roles have been tailored to fit them like gloves, and in this respect Dabadie's verbal

handicraft is *house couture*.

Horovitz's hard-bitten school-teacher and vicious ex-student disappear, leaving the stage to Dux (one of France's most respected *hommes du théâtre*) and the English film actress Birkin, who has lived in France since her debut in Richard Lester's *The Knack*, and whose simplicity, charm and halting French have made her a regular on television chat-shows.

Dux's professionalism, experience and dramatic presence give the production the backbone it would otherwise lack.

Birkin, hesitant and unsure at first, draws courage from Dux to fill out and exist in her own right within Dabadie's street-wise yet gauche character, until it is hard to know where the actress ends and the acting begins.

Yet these two perfectly at-

tuned performances beg the question: was it necessary to sacrifice the guts of Horovitz's play in order to achieve them?

But it is about time

McGrath stopped concentrat-

ing on making his good nights

out even better and went back

to challenging us and making

us think.

By Isaac Babel

Adapted by Christopher Hampton

from a translation by Michael Glenny & Harold Shukman

Geoffrey Bayldon

Sheila Burrell

Alan Cordiner

Robert Demeger

Kim Fenton

Peter Gordon

Richard Haddow-Haines

Robert Hickson

</div

## THE ARTS

In advance of the contemporary art fair *Art London 90*, Adrian Dannatt offers collectors financial rather than aesthetic advice

# What price taste when buying art?

**T**rust your own taste and only buy art works that you really like? Wrong. The standard advice to anyone about to plunge into the contemporary art market is severely out of date. If you want to buy art as an investment, an object of financial as well as aesthetic appreciation, then you would probably be wise to forget all about your own taste.

If, on the other hand, you are repelled by the idea of buying art as a commodity — as just another, smart product — then you understand very little about the contemporary art market. In which case, you would be well advised to steer clear of shark-infested seas.

In theory, populist gatherings such as *Art London 90* — the fifth International Contemporary Art Fair, opening at Olympia this Thursday — are intended to do

away with the snobbishness associated with buying art. Sponsored by British Airways and clearly aimed at those with money to spare but not necessarily any experience of buying art, the fair will exhibit more than 1,200 artists, whose works range in price tags from £50 to £50,000. Here you will find every kind of gallery, hawking every imaginable shape and style, from photo-realistic paintings of trucks to the most minimal sculptures. But the deliciously arcane codes of the international avant-garde still apply, and a serious collector is obliged to follow them. Contemporary art is both expensive and elitist.

The sharp end of contemporary art is a confusing, intellectually complex place. Real collectors, with more art than they could ever display even in a Tuscan villa or SoHo loft, know everything that is

happening, and understand latest developments in critical thinking and cultural production. They tour galleries and skim through every glossy art magazine. They know what, in American parlance, is "hot" and what is not. No auction price or bad review goes unrecorded.

For the rest of us, a few guidelines, crassly simplistic though they will seem to the connoisseurs: never buy cheap, never buy figurative, and avoid paintings done on canvas. Paintings are not really very "now", and the collector's skill depends on acute judgements of precisely when "then" becomes "now" and vice versa.

What is unmistakably fashionable is the cult of objects: artefacts that hover between self-conscious sculptures and everyday appliances, between the *objet trouvé* and the carefully crafted. If you have to ask yourself the question "Is it art?", it is worth investing in.

For sure returns, another good policy is to buy American. Manhattan artists have far higher status, deserved or not, than London counterparts in the same field. Chauvinism, and inverted chauvinism, play a big role in contemporary art.

Cologne and FIAC in Paris are among the most important art fairs, and have recently been joined by ARCO in Madrid. Although 120 galleries from 16 countries will be exhibiting at *Art London 90*, this fair is not among the biggest players. Nevertheless, there will be interesting trends to be spotted at Olympia.

A gallery such as Salama-Caro (which is relatively new to Cork Street), is among the few which will be showing younger British artists — but its prices reflect the location. However, there are some bright, small galleries which have all the requisite international contacts — reciprocal arrangements with New York or Cologne, for instance — and are not afraid to deal in bold, complex, and often controversial young artists.

Interim Art is the ideal gallery for a new, young collector interested in contemporary work, who enjoys the challenge of the difficult and whose budget stretches from £500 (below which the object is probably not worth buying) to a few thousand pounds — which rules out more established artists. Run by Mau-

reen Paley, quintessential New Yorker in exile, Interim has a spicy roster of the more conceptually-minded international artists. It is, moreover, particularly strong on "artists' multiples": pieces made in small editions — a Warhol-like concept with a decidedly high investment appeal.

**C**onsider the case of Jenny Holzer, an extremely hot American artist who deals with subverted forms of public proclamation: official pronouncements or advertising jargon short-circuited upon itself. A year ago at Interim Art you could have bought a simple black aluminium plaque, with one of her fake clichés stamped upon it (such as "It is embarrassing to be caught and killed for stupid reasons"), in an edition of ten for £550.

Since then, however, she has had a one-woman show at the Guggenheim in New York, been chosen as sole representative of American art at the Venice Biennale, and starred in the latest film by Dennis Hopper, a collector of her work. At a Sotheby's auction last month, the same plaques were selling for £2,100. A multiple, by definition, is not unique, but it is usually rarer and more important than an etching or any type of print, few of which appreciate sufficiently to be worth buying as an investment.

Interim also represents the promising British artist Angela Bulloch, who uses what look like early-1970s lighting fixtures to build her own mysterious and atmospheric installations. Also interesting is the young British art team, Langlands & Bell, who make elegant, beautifully crafted pieces, often on the theme of architectural plans and their coded, ideological meaning. For example, their "Air Routes of North West Europe (Night and Day)", in an edition of five, look at first like austere abstraction. But when you see how they represent night and day routes, they call into question our aesthetic value-judgements: the way we assume some signs to be art and others commerce, how we daily confuse abstraction and representation.

The whole point of an Art Fair is that one should feel free to buy that little still-life etching by an unknown Swedish student. The



Not only on canvas, but figurative, so doubly unfashionable: Cameros Galt's "Vanity", shown by Houldsworth Fine Art at *Art London 90*

point of contemporary art collecting is that one should feel obliged to buy that mysterious supermarket object by a New York Superstar. One may be prettier, the other more profitable: the choice is yours.

• *Art London 90* is at London Olympia from Thursday, March 29 to April 1; open 11am-8pm each day.

## Vintage tribute

### VARIETY

Sheridan Morley

Cook's Tour  
Shaftesbury

THE LATE Ray Cook was less famous than he should have been. The Australian pianist, conductor and arranger worked on more than 40 West End musicals between his arrival here in 1960 and his death last year. *Cook's Tour* at the Shaftesbury was a remarkable memorial to his talents.

It was also the first production by West End Cares, an organization of London theatre workers dedicated to raising money for Aids charities. Around £60,000 was earned overnight in Cook's name by a gala which vastly improved on the usual run of thrown-together Sunday charity concerts. Too often the good cause is the only good thing around.

But *Cook's Tour* reunited Angela Lansbury with Ben Arthur (from *Golden Girls*) to celebrate the *Mane* they first sang on Broadway two decades ago. It also allowed Liz Robertson to sing numbers from the *King and I* she has been touring with Nureyev, and Evelyn Laye to win a standing ovation merely by walking downstage as the one singular sensation from *Chorus Line*.

This was a celebration of British and American musical theatre at its greatest. But it was also a poignant reminder of the talents being lost through sudden death and the general evanescence of the old-style big-band show. The ghosts of Bob Fosse, Michael Bennett, Gower Champion and Alan Jay Lerner were all around the Shaftesbury on Sunday night, as were some of their greatest shows. *Cook's Tour* brought back not only the scores that seem to be in constant revival — *My Fair Lady*, *Sweet Charity*,  *Oklahoma!* — but also those that we have unwisely allowed to fall into disuse: *Pippin*, *Sail Away*, *What a Lovely War!*

From Maria Friedman's breathtaking "I Happen to Like New York" to the veteran Elisabeth Welch in the title song from *Pippin*, this was a vintage evening. Even its ending, with two small children singing "Tomorrow" in what could have been the most appallingly sentimental of clichés, became in the context of West End Cares a moment of heartbreaking optimism.



Abstract wins points but canvas does not: "Configuration", by Frank Avery Wilson at *Art London 90*, is not fashionable at the moment

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# Enter the muscular Christian

**Dr Robin Eames, the Archbishop of Armagh, is a front-runner for the See of Canterbury. But how would the Church react to his dynamic and masterful style? George Hill reports**

**S**ome archbishops are as wise as serpents, and some as harmless as doves; only a few succeed in being both, as Christ recommended. The retiring incumbent of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, is manifestly a dove, though there may be reservations in Downing Street about how far he has been harmless.

The prelate most prominently tipped to succeed him, in what is a very open field, is a man of a very different mark, definitely serpent rather than dove. This may endear him more to Mrs Thatcher, who will, in effect, have the final say in the appointment, than to the churchmen who will pick the short-list of names she will choose from.

The Right Reverend Dr Robin Eames, Archbishop of Armagh, has for years moved expertly in a world of subtle diplomacy among the embattled factions that have an interest in Northern Ireland. Some who have watched his activities closely in recent years have also gained an impression of competitiveness and personal ambition. His private view of the way Dr Runcie has handled the agonisingly difficult problem of the Lebanon hostages is said to be highly critical.

As one close observer of Irish bishops has put it: "He is not a man dogged by dogma" — adding that it was difficult to distinguish the churchman in him from the politician, the bureaucrat and the diplomat.

Only a rather unworldly observer would suppose that a drive to reach the top, and thereby to maximize one's ability to do good, is necessarily a disqualification for the highest office in the Anglican Church. But, being what it is, the Anglican Church may well feel uneasy at the prospect of finding a dynamic and masterful archbishop at its head. In Aesop's fable, the frogs asked Zeus to choose them a king, and he threw a log into their pond. Finding their new ruler boring, they petitioned for a more exciting sovereign. Zeus sent a stork, who soon made

them wish the log was king again. By history and temperament, the Church tends to be more comfortable with King Log than King Stork.

There is a sharp contrast in manner and style between the two men. Runcie has a diffident, anguished air, and manifestly took scant pleasure in the prominence his office brought him. He creditably professes to be looking forward after retirement to the trivial round, the common task and the 20 black Berkshire pigs which, Emsworth-like, he has reared down in the country. In fact, there is more steel in his composition than he allows to show.

Dr Eames is a forceful mover of men and events, and is not recorded to feel impelled towards the washing up or the pigsty. He is a rugby man, and on summer weekends he is out of canals into oilskins as often as he can manage, sailing to win in his high-performance 30ft cruiser-racer on Strangford Lough in County Down. Bellowing "Starboard!" through the rain-squalls, he is the epitome of muscular Christianity.

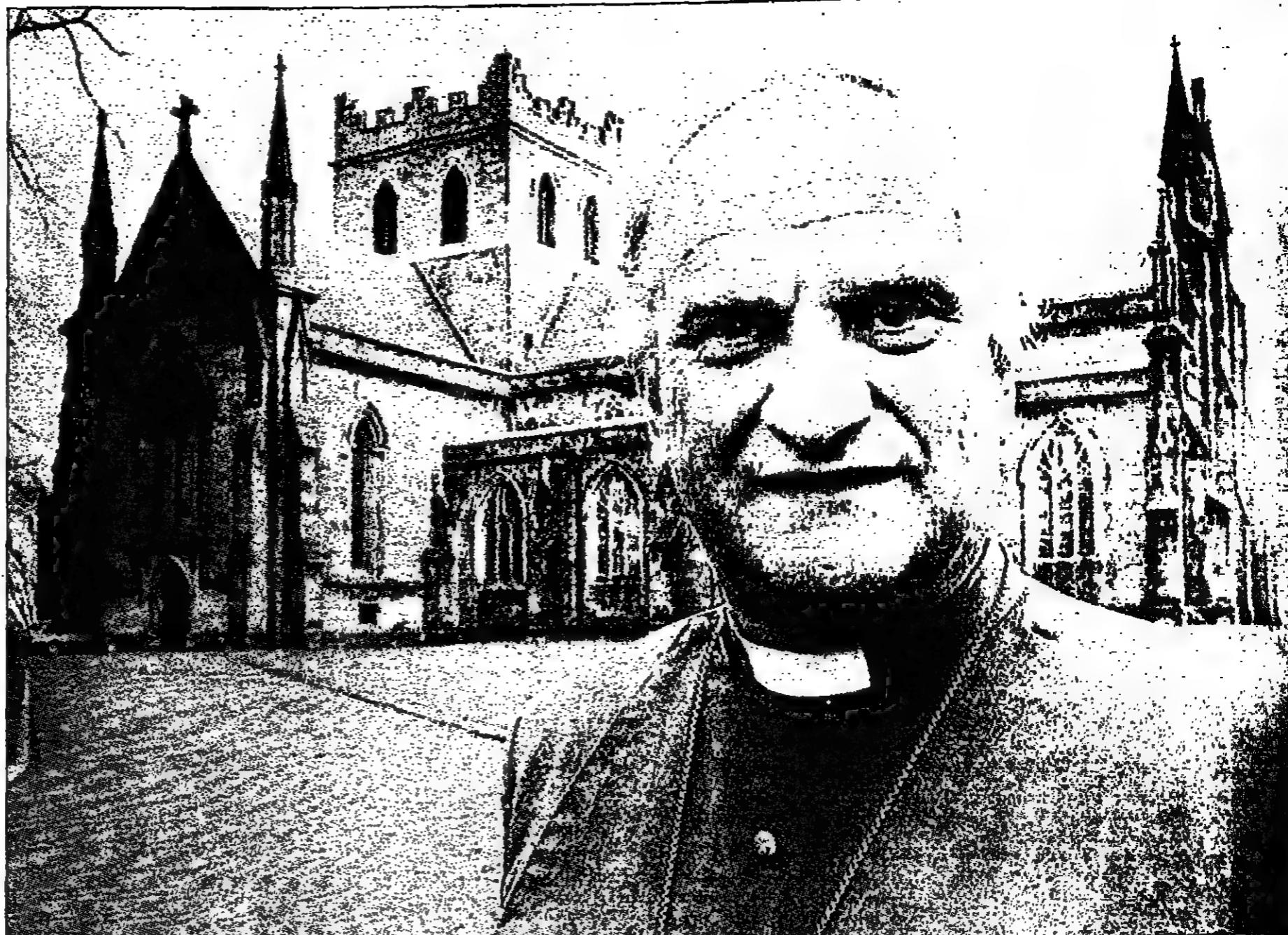
Dr Eames has found himself much in the limelight in recent years, and has shown every sign of enjoying it. He became Anglican Primate of All Ireland in 1986, and has interpreted his role much as one of mediator between communities and politicians. He knows Margaret Thatcher fairly well, and Charles Haughey rather better. He has the ear of the chief constable, the cardinal, and the SDLP, and his contacts with the Orange Lodges are close.

The qualities of the dove must in some measure be an essential qualification for such a role, and the pastoral requirements have at times been harrowing. He has buried scores of victims of sectarian violence, and in 1987 he had to help families of victims of the Enniskillen bombing as they identified the shattered remains of their loved ones. He has written a book about the problem of suffering.

In 1988, Dr Runcie appointed him chairman of an international commission in the Anglican Communion on the ordination of women. This key role in the most acute debate within the Church today guaranteed him a high profile on the national, as well as the provincial, stage. By general consent, he has played the dove to some effect here, too, by leading the commission towards a set of proposals which are likely to prove acceptable to most parties.

Limelight is unavoidable in these roles. But it is whispered that he has backed into it with more gusto than is altogether befitting. Some journalists in Northern Ireland believe that they detect a thinly disguised strategy to promote his claims to the top job. He takes his public image, as portrayed in the newspapers, very seriously indeed.

Last week Dr Eames gave an interview to a local news radio station in Ulster, in which he flirted with the possibility of glory in an almost Heseltinean way. He was speaking before Dr Runcie had announced his retirement, but very much as a publicly tipped member of the bunch of front-runners in a contest that was sure



Heir to the Runcie throne? The Right Reverend Dr Robin Eames, a prime mover of men and events, forcefully critical of the Church's handling of the hostage crisis

to take place within two years, before Dr Runcie reached the age of compulsory retirement.

**A**sked about his feelings about a possible preference to Canterbury, he replied: "It is not possible for anyone to say whether they would welcome or not welcome any challenge. You have to acknowledge when you are ordained in the Church that you have to foot at every challenge given to you and say: 'Is that what you think God is asking you to do?'"

The interviewer asked him about reports that he is highly regarded in Downing Street. "As far as the Prime Minister is concerned, she has shown at times, I think, a willingness to listen to anything that I have had to say, as she has listened to so many other people," he replied. "I find that what people say (is) that she seems to acknowledge some of the things I have said and done — well, I hope she listens to them."

A hint at what sort of new broom he might prove to be at Lambeth may be gained from a report of a source close to him about his private view of the way

the Runcie administration has handled the problem of Terry Waite and the other hostages in the Middle East.

He is said to have been critical in his comments. He felt that basic lines of inquiry had been followed up, too weakly in the months following the kidnapping of Terry Waite, and that the episode showed signs of hesitancy. Underlying his comments, it is said, was a clear assumption that given the chance, he would adopt a more upbeat and possibly interventionist strategy to bring the hostages home.

His Ulster experience perhaps gives him claims to feel that he understands the psychology of the gunmen better than Dr Runcie. He has had great experience at working behind the scenes to bring people together across the divide of tribal enmity.

But the suggestion of an eagerness to set about knocking heads together and sorting the terrorists out is likely to stoke a pang of dread in the devotees of the Church of England. The Anglican Church is a structure which has designed itself with a multiplicity of checks and balances, to the

point where every interest-group can be confident that though it may never get its own way, it can ensure in perpetuity that its opponents never do.

He happens to have one further characteristic which may intensify the pang of dread. He is only 52 years old, which is young for the See of Canterbury. Dr Runcie was aged 59 when he was enthroned, and most of the other serious contenders this time round are in their late fifties or early sixties. It is not so much the prospect of an archbishop too young to give due weight to the office, that may create fear (it is one of Dr Eames's strengths, in fact, that he is an excellent performer on television), as the prospect that an archbishop aged 52 would have up to 18 years ahead of him in the hot seat. A man could do much with his hands on the levers of power for so long a period. Barring illness, Mrs Thatcher could be choosing an archbishop well into the next century.

Mrs Thatcher may not be at all averse to the prospect of a strong Archbishop. But the selection is not entirely in her hands. She can

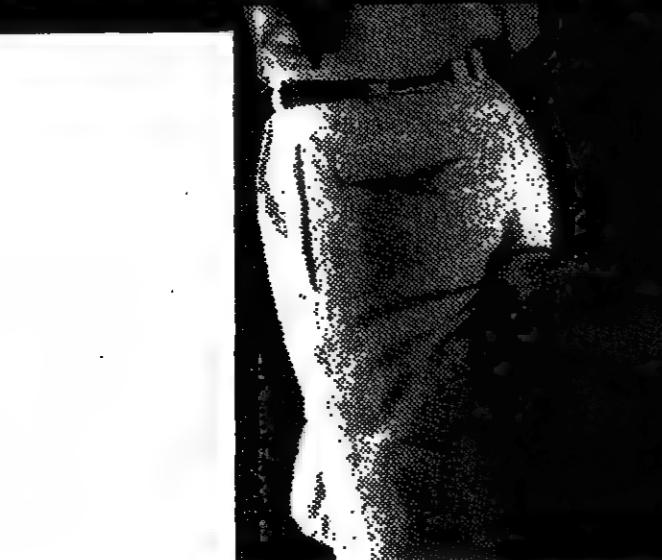
only choose between the names on a short-list of two submitted to her by a commission of churchmen. She could reject both and hold out for the candidate she prefers, at the cost of a considerable fine reopening the whole vexed question of the relationship between the Church and the secular power.

In practice, the name of Dr Eames will be quite difficult to keep off the short-list whatever body of opposition there is in the Church. The Archbishop of Canterbury is head not only of the Anglican Church but also of the whole Anglican Communion of 16 million souls.

It would be diplomatic to acknowledge this fact by short-listing a bishop from outside England, but there are many candidates who would have difficulty in taking the necessary oath of loyalty to the British Crown. Eames, as a contender who is British but not English, will have strong claims to a place on the list.

If he is there, even in second place, the Prime Minister will be free to consider whether or not she would like to provide the Church with King Stork.

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If you contract out, the Government will redirect part of your National Insurance contributions straight to your Personal Pension. And for many people there is also an

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## Tournament of the Mind

• Round 19, the penultimate round of Tournament of the Mind, is one of the most difficult. Mensa devised the questions to increase in difficulty as the competition progressed. A postal address for entries will be given tomorrow.

• Thousands of readers are playing for £5,000 or, for the school teams, a Hewlett Packard computer. But all who enter the Tournament will receive a certificate. Those who score above a certain level will get personalized certificates in bronze, silver and gold.

### 1. VERBAL

Two words have been overlapped. Both words have the letters printed in their correct order, but one word reads from left to right, the other reads from right to left. There are also two bogus letters included in the list. What are the two words?

N P R I E C T T A E R L E E S V Q O U E N

### 2. LOGIC

Your clock was correct at midnight but gains 16 minutes per hour. The clock now shows 2.15pm but it stopped exactly one hour ago. What is the correct time?

### 3. MATHS

A small has crawled up a slope. It covered the following distances: 10 inches, 15 inches, 20 inches and 25 inches in the following respective speeds: 6 inches per hour, 5 inches per hour, 7 inches per hour, and 4 inches per hour. However, the small slid back over each distance at the respective rates of: 3 inches per hour, 2 inches per hour, 1 inch per hour and 1 inch per hour. How long did it take to cover the total distance?

### 4. DIAGRAMS

How many squares can be constructed within this diagram? Each corner of each square must rest on a dot.



### MISCELLANY

Which continually active volcano has an altitude of 18,347 feet?

### ROUND 19 - ANSWERS

Cut out this coupon and keep your answers until Round 20. Answers will be accepted only on coupons published in *The Times*.

#### PUZZLES

Answer 1.

Answer 2.

Answer 3.

Answer 4.

#### MISCELLANY

Answer

NAME:

POSTCODE:

ADDRESS:

CITY:

STATE:

ZIP CODE:

TELEPHONE NUMBER:

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## PREVIEW

TODAY Theatre &amp; Cabaret

● WEDNESDAY Rock, Jazz &amp; World Music ● THURSDAY Opera, Dance &amp; Books ● FRIDAY Classical Music ● MONDAY Art &amp; Auctions

The Times Preview features a different area of the arts each day Monday to Friday, as indicated above, including events in the following seven days. Plus the Cinema Guide

## THEATRE

Jeremy Kingston

## NEW IN LONDON

**ABINGDON SQUARE:** Intense, moving and beautifully performed play by Maria Irene Fornes, first seen in this same production at the Soho Poly: a woman suspended in marriage in the early years of the century. With Annabelle Aspin, Philip Voss and Pearce Quigley. National Theatre (Contested), South Bank, SE1 (01-828 2252). Underground: Waterloo. Previews from tomorrow, 7.30-9.15pm. Opens Thurs., 7.30-9.15pm. Then in repertory, 9.50.

**BEHIND HERSELF:** Serial abuse: the how and the why. Sarah Daniels's new play begins with humorous cracks and then comes to the crunch. Royal Court, Sloane Street, SW1 (01-730 1745). Underground: Sloane. Previews from Thurs., Sun. Opens April 4, 8pm. Then Mon-Sat. Sun., mat. Sat. (from April 7), 4pm. Mon-Sat. 2pm, Tues-Fri 2.15pm. Sat mat 2.15pm.

**EDITH BLACK:** Theatre Season continues with Steve Carter's play, set in 1920s New York where a sophisticated West Indian girl loves a Southern black boy. Abby James of Temple Theatre directs. Republique Studio, Chiswick High Rd, W4 (01-835 3354). Underground: Chiswick. Previews from Fri., 7.30pm. Opens April 2, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat. 7.30pm (no perf. Fri., April 13). Previews 24, from April 2, 2.30pm. Until April 14.

**FIGARO GETS DIVORCED:** Horwell's 1938 sequel to Beaumarchais' Figaro, Almaviva and the rest adapt to the Revolution, though Horwell transfers to modern times. British premiers. Gars, Prince Albert Pub, 11 Pembroke Road, W1 (01-229 0706). Underground: Notting Hill Gate. Previews, tonight, tomorrow 7.30pm. Opens Thurs. 7.30pm. Then Mon-Sat. 7.30pm, 2.30pm. Until April 21.

**LOOK, LOOK:** Stephen Fry, Margaret Courtenay, Robin Bailey in Michael Frayn play about an audience, so maybe the reverse of *Noises Off*, though presumably still funny.

Aldwych, The Aldwych, WC2 (01-836 8404). Underground: Covent Garden. Previews from Fri., 7.45pm. Opens April 17, 7pm. Then Mon-Fri. 7.45pm. Sat. 8.30pm, mats Wed. 8pm, Sat. 8pm. Previews 24-25, from April 17, 25.50-21.50.

**THE MISER:** Roy Marsden plays Molier's Harpagon tom, though not for long, between love and money. Mike Alfred's touring production for Oxford Stage Company in London for three weeks. Young Vic, 66 The Cut, SE1 (01-828 0363). Underground: Waterloo. Preview tonight 7.30pm. Opens tomorrow 7pm. Then Mon-Sat. 7.30pm, mats Thurs. and April 6, 2.30pm, and April 7 and 14, 2.30pm. Previews 23, from March 28, 21.50-21.50.

**NEVER THE SHINER:** Jose Astorino plays Clarence Darrow in latest version of the Leopold-Loeb "white kid" case. The play comes garnished with awards from its 1985 Chicago production.

Pheasants, Northumberland Avenue, WC2 (01-839 4401). Underground: Embankment. Previews from tonight and tomorrow, 7.45pm. Opens Thurs., 7pm. Then Mon-Sat. 7.45pm, mats Wed. and Sat. 8pm. Previews 23 and 24-25. From March 23, 21.50-21.50.

**THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE:** Paul Nicholas and Bonnie Langford in the G&S swashbuckler given the Broadway once-over.

London Palladium, Argyl Street, W1 (01-437 7373). Underground: Oxford Circus. Mon-Sat. 7.30pm, mats Wed. and Sat. 2.30pm. Mon-Fri 22.50-21.50, Sat. eve 21.50-22.50, mats 22-21.50. From March 23, 21.50-21.50.

**VOLPONE:** Ian McEwan (as the Fox) and Nicholas Hytner (fresh from directing *Miss Saigon*) renew the partnership that created a superb *Don Carlos* in Manchester two years ago. With Denise Lewis as Venus.

Almeida, Almeida Street, N1 (01-359 4404). Underground: Highbury & Islington. Previews Thurs-Sat. Mon. 8pm. Open Apr. 3, Thurs. Mon-Sat. Sun. 8pm. Sat. eve 21.50-22.50, mats 22-21.50. From March 23, 21.50-21.50.

**WORD-WATCHING:** Nigel Hawthorne and Jane Lapotaire in fine and moving play about C.S. Lewis's Indian summer love. Queen's Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-734 1160/01-439 3845). Underground: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Sat. 8pm, mats Tues. and Thurs. 8.30pm, 9.15pm. Sat. 8pm, Sun. 8pm. Previews 23, from March 28, 21.50-21.50.

**WHITEHAVEN:** The Minister's Tale. Manchester's Royal Exchange Mobile Theatre here for three days with Phyllida Lloyd's sizzling production.

## Not to Stalin's taste



**I**saac Babel's reputation rests primarily on his short stories, although this Soviet writer would certainly have left more than his two surviving plays had Stalin not banned his work, sent him to a prison camp and shot him. *Marya* (previewing from Thursday at the Old Vic) is the work that alerted the authorities to his political unreliability — that is, his urge to show life as it is and not how despots would like it to be. The play was in rehearsal in 1934 when the ban was imposed, one reason probably being that the eponymous heroine (who never appears) is the daughter of a Grand Duke. She has joined the Revolution and is away fighting the Poles — the time is 1920 — but her aristocratic blood would have

rendered her unfit to be a Soviet heroine. Babel's episodic play requires a large cast and has only once before been staged in this country, at the Royal Court in 1967. And by a curious chance, the day after it opens in the Old Vic, with Sylvie Le Touzel, Julie Legrand (left and right, respectively, in the photograph above) and Geoffrey Bayldon playing members of Marya's family, the play will be given its long-delayed premiere in Moscow. *Maryya*, Old Vic, Waterloo Road, London SE1 (01-928 7616). Previews from Thursday, 7.30pm. Opens April 3 at 7pm. Then Monday to Friday 7.30pm, Saturday 7.45pm, mats Wed 2.30pm, Sat 4pm. £7-£11.75. *Jeremy Kingston*

## CONTINUING

**CANT PAY? WON'T PAY:** Revolting housewives take over the supermarket. Patricia Brake and David Roper lead a revival of *Dario Fo's* anarchic farce, Lyric Theatre, King Street, W6 (01-741 2511). Underground: Hammersmith. Mon-Fri 7.45pm, mats Wed 2.30pm, Sat 4pm. £7.50-£12.50. Until March 31.

**JEFFREY BERNARD IS UNWELCOME:** Tom Conti takes over the well-known drunk-about-town locked overnight in his favourite pub. A great show if you're into the company of drunks.

Apollo Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-287 2683). Underground: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 8.30pm, mats 7.30pm, and April 6, 2.30pm, and April 7 and 14, 2.30pm. Previews 24-25, from April 17, 25.50-21.50.

**MAN OF THE MOMENT:** Michael Gambon and Peter Bowles superb in *Academy's* masterly henry comedy: good meals even on the Coast of Sol. Globe Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-437 3867). Underground: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Fri 7.45-10.15pm, Sat 6.15-11pm, mats Wed 3.30pm and Sat 5.30pm. £7-£11.50.

**MOSCOW SHADOWS:** Barbara Lott and Joanne Tewson as two Moscow widows racing on the edge of the law, caught up in a murder case. New End Theatre, 27 New End, NW8 (01-794 0022). Underground: Hampstead. Tues-Sun 8pm, mat Sat 4.30pm. Tues-Thurs and Sun 6.5pm; Fri and Sat 6.30pm; Sat mat 2.50pm. Until April 8.

**NODE AND GERTIE:** Patricia Hodge and Simon Callow, sput. sing and dance in Sheridan Morley's trim down Memory Lane. Comedy Theatre, Panton Street, London SW1 (01-838 2578). Underground: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 8.30pm, Sun 2.30pm. £7-£11.50.

**SAINT OSCAR:** Stephen Missick plays Willy reviewing his life with Lord Alfred and St Sebastian in Field Day's production of Terry Eagleton's bold but flawed first play, Ends April 7.

Hampstead Theatre, Swiss Cottage, NW3 (01-272 9301). Underground: Swiss Cottage. Mon-Sat 8pm, mat Sat 4pm. Mon 6.50-10.15pm, Sat 6.30-10.15pm. Until April 8.

**SHADOWNLANDS:** Nigel Hawthorne and Jane Lapotaire in fine and moving play about C.S. Lewis's Indian summer love. Queen's Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-734 1160/01-439 3845). Underground: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Sat 8pm, mats Tues and Thurs 8.30pm, Sat 8pm, Sun 8pm. Previews 23, from March 28, 21.50-21.50.

**WHITEHAVEN:** The Minister's Tale. Manchester's Royal Exchange Mobile Theatre here for three days with Phyllida Lloyd's sizzling production.

## SUNDAY IN THE PARK WITH GEORGE

Long-anticipated London premiere of Sondheim's 1984 musical inspired by Seurat's painting of a million dots: Philip Quast as George, Martin Freedman as Dr. Naaman.

National Theatre (Lyndhurst), Southwark. Tonight, 7.30pm, mats Wed 2.15pm, Sat 4pm. £7-£12.50. Until March 31.

**OUTSIDE LONDON**

**BELFAST:** Observe the Sons of Ulster Marching Towards the Somme. First performance in Northern Ireland of Frank McGuinness's immensely moving play set in the weeks, days, minutes before the First World War battle.

Lyric, Ridgeway Street (0232 381081). Preview tomorrow, 8pm. Opens Thurs., 8pm. Then Mon-Sat 8pm. Until May 5.

**BRADFORD:** Jubb! Bill Owen and Constance Chapman in touring production of David Storey's play, first seen at the NT, where it was known as *The March on Russia* and received mixed reviews.

Albion, Morley Street (0274 752000). Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mat Sat 2.30pm, £7-£11.50. Until March 31.

**NOTTING HILL:** Michael Gambon and Peter Bowles superb in *Academy's* masterly henry comedy: good meals even on the Coast of Sol. Globe Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-437 3867). Underground: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 8.30pm, Sun 2.30pm. £7-£11.50.

**MANCHESTER:** Henry IV Richard Harris and Sarah Miles, with Ian Hogg and Harold Innocent, in pre-London tour of Pirandello's masterpiece on madness and reality, for and against. Henry is the Holy Roman Emperor who stood in the snow at Canossa.

Palace Theatre, Oxford Street (081 0236 9222). Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Thurs and Sat 2.30pm, £7-£12.50. Until March 31.

**NEWBIGIN-BY-THE-SEA:** The Weather's Tale (See What's On)

Newbiggin Sports Centre, Woodhorn Road (0670 814444). Fri, Sat, Mon, 7.30pm, mat Mon 1.30pm. £5.50-£11.50. Until April 6.

**SAINTS:** Stephen Missick plays Willy reviewing his life with Lord Alfred and St Sebastian in Field Day's production of Terry Eagleton's bold but flawed first play, Ends April 7.

Hampstead Theatre, Swiss Cottage, NW3 (01-272 9301). Underground: Swiss Cottage. Mon-Sat 8pm, mat Sat 4pm. Mon 6.50-10.15pm, Sat 6.30-10.15pm. Until April 8.

**SHADOWNLANDS:** Nigel Hawthorne and Jane Lapotaire in fine and moving play about C.S. Lewis's Indian summer love. Queen's Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-734 1160/01-439 3845). Underground: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Sat 8pm, mats Tues and Thurs 8.30pm, Sat 8pm, Sun 8pm. Previews 23, from March 28, 21.50-21.50.

**WHITEHAVEN:** The Minister's Tale. Manchester's Royal Exchange Mobile Theatre here for three days with Phyllida Lloyd's sizzling production.

**TELEVISION TOP 10**

National top 10 programmes in the week ending: 18th March 1990

## BBC 1

1 Neighbours (Sun 10.30/7.20pm) 19.48pm

2 Neighbours (Thurs 12.30/17.20pm) 17.40pm

3 Neighbours (Wed 12.30/17.20pm) 17.30pm

4 EastEnders (Thurs/Sun 7.30pm) 17.26pm

5 Neighbours (Mon 12.30/17.20pm) 18.06pm

6 Neighbours (Thurs 12.30/17.20pm) 18.07pm

7 Neighbours (Fri 12.30/17.20pm) 18.52pm

8 Antiques Roadshow 12.10pm

9 BBC2 Gameshow 11.30pm

10 Neighbours (Sat 12.30/17.20pm) 18.53pm

Channel 4

1 Brookside (Wed/Sat 8.30pm) 2.52pm

2 Brookside (Mon/Fri 8.30pm) 4.38pm

3 Brookside (Mon/Fri 8.30pm) 5.07pm

4 Brookside (Mon/Fri 8.30pm) 7.30pm

5 Brookside (Mon/Fri 8.30pm) 8.57pm

6 Coronation Street 11.30pm

7 Coronation Street 11.30pm

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31 Coron

## TELEVISION &amp; RADIO

## Troubled times at toy-town

## TELEVISION CHOICES

Peter Waymark

**Sir John Harvey-Jones** was clearly wasted running ICI. He should have opted for television years ago, such is his effortless command of the medium. The idea behind *Troubleshooter* (BBC2, 9.30pm) is that he acts as a business doctor, diagnosing the problems and suggesting remedies for companies in



**Devastating charmer:** business doctor Sir John Harvey-Jones (BBC2, 9.30pm)

trouble. In Manchester to apply his expertise to the ailing toy firm, Tri-ang, he is charming but devastating. The company, he declares, is suffering from weak management, an inefficient factory and clapped-out machinery. Sidney, the boss, a man who talks entirely in clichés, is branded as "old-fashioned and autocratic". Sir John accuses him of being anti-union. "I believe in unions," says Sidney, "in other plants." Much has happened at Tri-ang since Sir John's first visit and the sceptical may feel that the real world of business is a little more complicated than this television construct, watchable though it is.

• Peru's leading novelist, Mario Vargas Llosa, is attempting to emulate a fellow writer, Vaclav Havel, and become president of his country. Nicholas Shakespeare's excellent film for *Omniales* (BBC1, 10.35pm) follows him on the campaign trail while using his excursion into politics as the peg for a wider profile. The material is rich: a series of semi-autobiographical books, two wives, one an aunt and the other a cousin, 18 years of exile in Europe and a political outlook that has swung all the way from Marxism to Thatcherism. Llosa is clearly a reluctant politician but if he wins he will have the awesome job of rescuing a country on the point of collapse.

• Enthusiastically presented by Michael Jackson (no relation), *The Beer Hunter* (Channel 4, 8.30pm) sets out to prove that beer is as interesting as wine, with as many distinctive varieties and subtleties of flavour. His exploration begins in Belgium, where he works his way through a huge meal in which every course is accompanied by a different beer. Like any wine buff he talks knowledgeably about bouquet, palate and finish and maintains that the beer world, too, has its burgundies and champagnes.

• If Uncle Joe ever took home movies, none of them turns up on *Stalins* (ITV, 10.35pm). Concluding the trilogy, this study of war and Cold War is a portrait of Stalin's Soviet Union rather than of the man himself, who remains elusive.

## RADIO 1

**FM Stereo and MW** News on the half-hour from 7.30am, 8.30am and 10.00am. 8.30am *Jaku Brambles* 8.30 Simon Mayo 8.30 Simon Bates 12.30pm *Newbeat* 12.45 Mike Read 3.00 Steve Wright in the Afternoon 3.30 News 30 4.00 *Primo Scherzo* 7.20 *The Chorus* 8.00 *Dreams of the Moon* 8.30 John Peel 10.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00- 2.00am Richard Skinner

## RADIO 2

**FM Stereo and MW** News on the hour from 7.30am, 8.30am and 10.00am. 7.30am *Jaku Brambles* 8.30 Simon Mayo 8.30 Simon Bates 12.30pm *Newbeat* 12.45 Mike Read 3.00 Steve Wright in the Afternoon 3.30 News 30 4.00 *Primo Scherzo* 7.20 *The Chorus* 8.00 *Dreams of the Moon* 8.30 John Peel 10.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00- 2.00am Richard Skinner

## WORLD SERVICE

All items in GMT. Add an hour for BST. 8.00am *World News* 9.00 News Summary 9.30 London Match 5.30 *World News* 10.00 *World News* 11.00 *World News* 12.00 *World News* 12.30pm *Newsbeat* 1.00 *World News* 1.30 *World News* 2.00 *World News* 2.30 *World News* 3.00 *World News* 3.30 *World News* 4.00 *World News* 4.30 *World News* 5.00 *World News* 5.30 *World News* 6.00 *World News* 6.30 *World News* 7.00 *World News* 7.30 *World News* 8.00 *World News* 8.30 *World News* 9.00 *World News* 9.30 *World News* 10.00 *World News* 10.30 *World News* 11.00 *World News* 11.30 *World News* 12.00 *World News* 12.30 *World News* 1.00 *World News* 1.30 *World News* 2.00 *World News* 2.30 *World News* 3.00 *World News* 3.30 *World News* 4.00 *World News* 4.30 *World News* 5.00 *World News* 5.30 *World News* 6.00 *World News* 6.30 *World News* 7.00 *World News* 7.30 *World News* 8.00 *World News* 8.30 *World News* 9.00 *World News* 9.30 *World News* 10.00 *World News* 10.30 *World News* 11.00 *World News* 11.30 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## BUSINESS ROUNDUP

## Playboy in European joint venture talks

PLAYBOY Enterprises Inc of the US is negotiating a joint venture with an unidentified European publisher and planning a share issue. Miss Christie Heiner, Playboy's chief executive, said in Italy. She declined to comment on speculation that talks were with the West German media and publishing group Bertelsmann, but said Playboy was looking for television for growth and might consider collaborating with the Italian media entrepreneur Signor Silvio Berlusconi.

A new issue of Playboy shares on Wall Street was being considered. Miss Heiner's father, Mr Hugh Heiner, who founded Playboy magazine, owns 70 per cent of Playboy Enterprises.

## Insurance broker ahead

PRE-TAX profits at Lloyd Thompson Group, the Lloyd's insurance and reinsurance broker, were up by 40 per cent to £4.03 million in the six months to end-December. Income from brokerage increased by 37 per cent to £9.59 million in the period. Fully diluted earnings per share improved by 32 per cent to 7.9p and the interim dividend advanced by 21 per cent to 2.3p.

## EBC housing setback

EBC, the South-west building contractor, sold only 40 houses in 1989 compared with 120 in 1988, halving profits at the housing division. However, buoyant profits from contracting and a doubled contribution from commercial property development helped lift pre-tax profits in the year to December to £5.3 million, a 43 per cent increase on 1988.

At £1.2 million, the contribution from the property maintenance division came close to matching the £1.3 million from contracting. A final dividend of 4.5p a share is being paid, giving a total of 8p a share (6.75p). Mr David Stoneman, the chairman, said: "Good order books for a number of our building companies make us confident about the prospects for the current year."

## Mayoh leaves P-E payout Epwin Group rises 24%

MR JOHN MAYOH, joint managing director of Epwin Group, the window maker, has resigned to pursue other interests. He has undertaken not to sell his 18 per cent stake for at least a year. Epwin raised pre-tax profits 32 per cent to £3.05 million during 1989 on turnover of £43.9 million (£34.8 million). The total dividend rises to 6p (5.3p) through a proposed final of 4.2p on earnings of 14.1p (11.3p).

## Sale boosts Ossory

THE SALE of an 11-acre site in Mordake, south-west London, accounts for much of the turnover in the interim results from Ossory Estates, the property developer. The site was sold in December for £20 million to investors trading as Peachstream Properties. The sale fell within Ossory's first half and lifted total turnover in the six months to December to £27.3 million. Pre-tax profits were up 49 per cent at £6.58 million despite a doubled interest charge of £1.3 million.

Ossory has since acquired a 47.5 per cent stake in Peachstream, which plans a 184,000 sq ft office building on the site. Ossory will project manage the scheme on a fee basis. An interim dividend of 0.4p a share (0.3p) is being paid.

## Discount winner transforms B&amp;J

ALISTAIR GRANT

TWO SUBSTANTIAL equity offerings in just over a year are rich even for fast-growing company like Brown & Jackson. Such hyperactivity is bound to raise memories of B&J's last spell of torrid growth, when the shares reached dizzy 28p before sagging to 11p.

That said, B&J looks to have a winner with Poundstretcher, the discount non-food retail chain bought from Lowndes Queensway. Management style is to hire it high and sell it cheap. There is mileage in selling men's white cotton shirts at £3.99. If Poundstretcher proves to be a formula business with staying power, then the original purchase was indeed a great opportunity, and the latest deal to add a further 53 Lowndes sites is a logical extension.

Poundstretcher turned in 13 per cent like-for-like sales growth, which translates to 25 per cent profits growth. The first months of the current year show a distinct acceleration.

The deal stretched B&J's balance sheet, but transformed its profitability. At pre-tax level, the gain was 320 per cent to £5.53 million with earnings per share 70 per cent ahead.

Regrettably, the fact that £2 million of the profits arose from property disposals was not apparent immediately, though the company would say that with more than 200 outlets, this will be a recurring



Eyes on Europe: Steve Cuthbert, of Brent Chemicals, yesterday

## Chemicals

THE BIG question for Brent Chemicals shareholders lies in the group's plans for spending its considerable cash hoard.

The sale of Reddish Savilles, the brewing and cleaning chemicals subsidiary, plus the divestment of its automotive rust treatment and primer activities, brought in more than £30 million, a tidy sum for a company capitalized at little more than £75 million.

Indeed, £29 million of Brent's £41 million net assets are net cash, which works out at about 54p per share.

Brent clearly plans to make further acquisitions and hints that these will be of owner-managed businesses in Europe, where its expansion is to be focused. However, there is a risk it will make a rash move to reduce its current asset vulnerability to predators.

Analysts expect some recovery in Brent's fortunes this year, taking profits to £14 million and earnings to about 14p and leaving the shares, up 4p at 144p, on a prospective p/e ratio of 10. That is high on trading grounds, even though there is a 6.3 per cent yield. However, Brent has a number of businesses of gem-like quality and, netting the cash pile off its market value, these could seem sufficiently cheap for an industry buyer to launch a bid.

## TT Group

TT GROUP is fast settling into its stride, which is no less than was expected after a 1987 revitalization in which Mr John Newman, former acquisitions manager at Hanson, and Mr Nicholas Shipp, former stockbroker, moved into the executive seats.

Pre-tax profits of TT (formerly Tyzack Turner) rose by 135 per cent from £3.58 million to £5.42 million on a £60.9 million (£38 million) turnover in the year ended December 30. Pre-tax margins advanced by one percentage point to 13.8 per cent.

The final dividend rises from 2p to 2.5p a share, making 4p (3p) for the year.

The profits advance owes something to a full year's contribution from Beaton Clark, acquired in August 1988, the benefit of eight months' profit after the May 1989 acquisition of Newship Manufacturing, and to organic growth.

Improved productivity was squeezed out of Beaton.

The Hanson experience and lessons of financial control helped TT Group end the year with gross bank borrowings of £3.3 million and cash in hand of £1.7 million, giving a gearing of a mere 4.4 per cent.

The balance sheet is therefore poised for the next move on the acquisition trail, though not, it seems, Chloride's way. Having built a 2.85 per cent stake in Chloride, TT has recently sold the rump of its holding. However, after interest costs, TT may not have made much of a turn out of the exercise.

Pre-tax profits could challenge the £1 million mark this year, and at 117p, up 4p, the shares trade on 8.1 times.

The Newman-Shipp team holds 32 per cent of TT's equity, and there is a respectable institutional following. The shares are looking cheap.

## Japanese firms favour UK

JAPANESE companies have increased their presence in Europe ahead of the single market in 1992 with Britain and France the favoured destinations, a survey by Jetro, the semi-official Japan External Trade Organisation, shows.

At end-January, there were 529 companies with Japanese investment of at least 10 per cent, up from 411 a year earlier, in the 18 countries of the EC and the European Free Trade Association.

These included 132 in Britain, 95 in France, 89 in West Germany, 55 in Spain, 39 in the Netherlands and 28 in Italy. By sector, 139 produce electronic and electrical equipment or parts, 83 chemicals and 66 general machinery.

The average local content of parts and materials rose from 51.2 to 67.2 per cent.

## Legal wrangles risk souring economic ties, says Brittan

## EC trade treaty with US urged

From Peter Gulliford Brussels

The United States and the European Community need a joint treaty to prevent "unseemly and damaging disputes" over industrial jurisdiction from escalating out of proportion, Sir Leon Brittan, EC Commissioner for Competition Policy, said in New York yesterday.

Sir Leon defended the EC's increasingly powerful competition-enforcement rules, but gave warning that they could bring it into conflict with the US. "We cannot avoid the possibility of conflicts of jurisdiction, with both the United States and the European Community claiming jurisdiction in the same areas," he said.

The world's two biggest trading blocs should sign "a



Sir Leon: "interests overlap"

treaty or less formal agreement", as no procedure currently exists for settling disputes between them, he continued. Such an agreement would provide for information gathering and exchange,

and would set a framework for consultation, in order to preempt the growing number of legal wrangles that risk souring economic ties.

The move could help allay fears that Brussels will use its growing anti-trust muscle beyond Community boundaries to protect European interests.

Sir Leon's spokesman in Brussels said that newly agreed EC powers to control large-scale company mergers, which come into force on September 21, gave added urgency to the Commission's treaty plans.

"Many mergers of American and other international companies will come under the new EC regulation, and there is clearly bound to be a certain overlap of interest between the Community and the United States," he said.

## Clearing time cut by Abbey

By Lindsay Cook

Family Money Editor

ABBEY NATIONAL has taken another step towards becoming a fully fledged clearing bank. It has reduced the time it takes to clear cheques from seven calendar days to four working days for its two cheque accounts. The high street banks quote three to four days to clear cheques and advise customers not to write cheques until they have balances to cover them.

Under the new system, a cheque paid into an Abbey branch on a Monday will be available on Friday.

The Abbey, which suffered substantial losses through a student cheque fraud in the Eighties, had maintained its seven-day clearing when it launched its cheque accounts two years ago.

## GrandMet seeks new retail business for franchising side

From Martin Waller, Farmington, Connecticut

GRAND METROPOLITAN is seeking a new retail business to add to its franchise-based operations, which include the Burger King hamburger chain.

However, the drinks group — showing a party of London analysts round its US businesses this week — is keen not to be seen as being in acquisition mode.

It has stressed that any retail expansion would not involve a massive cash outlay — it may even choose to start a new business from scratch.

The company also stressed its commitment to Pearle, its spectacles retail business in the US, which has been seen in some quarters as sitting oddly

with GrandMet's core activities. Some analysts have suggested it might be sold.

Mr David Tagg, the main board director in charge of retail and property, said there was no question of selling or floating Pearle, which expects to double sales from a forecast \$750 million in 1990 over the next three years.

He said the intention was to build the retail side further by bolting on another retail area which would be run along the same franchise lines as Burger King and Pearle. Mr Tagg said the new retail area could well be just as different as spectacles and burgers.

The spectacles business will

## Ramar Textiles plc

MANUFACTURERS AND DISTRIBUTORS OF LADIESWEAR

## Unaudited Interim Results

	Half year to 24/11/89 £'000	Half year to 25/11/88 £'000	Year to 26/5/89 £'000
Turnover	12,085	13,768	24,682
Profit (Loss) before tax	(252)	426	837
Tax (Charge) credit	88	(157)	(323)
Profit (Loss) after tax	(164)	269	514
Earnings (Loss) per share	(1.29p)	2.12p	4.06p

- Company carrying record stockholdings of presold stock. UK factories producing at record levels with order books full through to the Autumn.
- Presold production running at a rate of £600,000 per week since the beginning of 1990. A sales increase in the order of 20% anticipated for calendar year.
- High interest rates, delay in settlement of consequential loss claim, expanding production & high stock levels all contributed to interest charges in excess of £525,000.
- Supply difficulties and uncertainties in China resulted in lost sales of around £2 million in silk garments in the first half. However, these problems have been overcome and as silk now has a much wider public appeal I anticipate our long term investment will create profits in the ensuing years.
- I am confident of the satisfactory outcome of arbitration at the end of April and very much regret the detrimental effect on the recovery and expansion of the Group caused by unwarranted delays in settlement by the insurers.

Colin Radin, Chairman

OKI  
MARTIN DAWES  
COMMUNICATIONS

Telephone 01252 415202  
446 Bath Road, Slough SL1 6BB.  
Telephone 0808 057741

# 'No changes' at Wang after founder's death

By Melinda Wittstock

WALL STREET has ruled out any changes in the management or ownership of Wang Laboratories, the loss-making US minicomputer manufacturer whose founder, Dr An Wang, aged 70, died on Saturday.

It was reportedly "business as usual" at the company in Lowell, Massachusetts, with no signs of the boardroom struggle that, more often than not, follows the death of a family-controlled company's founder.

Wall Street analysts and corporate financiers said there is little likelihood that Wang, which reported a \$424.3 million loss on sales of \$2.87

billion in the year to end-June, will be taken over for some time.

Mr Marc Schulman, a computer industry analyst with UBS Securities in New York, said: "No one is interested. It's like climbing into a ship with a hole in the bottom. When that has finally been plugged, maybe someone will be interested."

Mr George Elling, a computer industry analyst with Merrill Lynch in New York, said: "Even if the family did decide it wanted to sell out, it is highly questionable who would want to buy it now."

With the shares languishing at just \$6 yesterday, down

from a \$42.50 high in 1984, it is highly unlikely the Wang family could be persuaded to sell out.

Mr Frederick Wang, who resigned as president and chief operating officer to make way last August for Mr Richard Miller, a former executive of General Electric, confirmed that the family will continue to back Mr Miller's restructuring programme while maintaining its controlling stake.

The Wang family, together with directors and top managers, controls 82.8 percent of the company's publicly quoted Class C voting stock and 22.9 per cent of the quoted non-voting Class B

shares. In a statement, Mr Wang said: "The Wang family believes the long-term plan now being implemented to return the company to profitability will achieve its objectives, and that implementation of the plan remains the best means through which to maximize stockholders' value in the company."

Wang, which pioneered electronic calculators, user-friendly word processors and small business computers, first ran into trouble when it chose to ignore the arrival of the IBM personal computer.

It has been hit by the worldwide slump in computer sales.

## Head of airline resigns

THE HEAD of London City Airways, Mr Jonathan Wilson, has resigned after mounting losses forced the handing over of a main route to this fledgling airline's arch-rival, Brymon.

Mr Wilson helped to develop three scheduled services from London City Airport and during recent months saw a steady improvement in the number of passengers carried to both Paris and Brussels.

Fights to Amsterdam, however, proved difficult to fill.

### Parkland fall

SHARES IN Parkland Textiles of Bradford dropped 25p to 215p after a warning that profits would slump by about 20 per cent this year.

### Memec lower

MEMEC, THE systems components group, saw pre-tax profits tumble by a fifth to £6.7 million in 1989. The total dividend rises to 6p (5.2p) on earnings per share of 15.85p (19.9p).

### Ramar loss

RAMAR TEXTILES plunged to a loss of £16,000 at the interim stage to November compared with pre-tax profits of £426,000 last time. Again there is no interim dividend on a loss per share of 1.29p (eps 2.12p).

### Minorco wins

MINORCO HAS secured 98 per cent of Freeport-McMoRan Gold of the US following its offer.



Peter Tom: reporting a difficult year, but confident about future progress

## Bardon produces £12m

BARDON GROUP, the quarrying and building products group, reports pre-tax profits of £12.1 million on sales of £98.5 million in the nine months to the end of December, against £12.9 million for the year to end-March 1989, on turnover of £165.7 million (Philip Pangalo writes).

Earnings per share of 10.14p for the period compare with 10.1p for the previous year, with fully diluted earnings at 9.64p (9.86p) reflecting September's £1.6 million rights issue. A final dividend of 1.9p makes 2.86p for the nine months, compared with 3.18p for the year to end-March. Mr

shortfall in the concrete company, affected by rising cement prices and lower demand.

Mr Tom said the American operations, which account for 28 per cent of group profits and 47 per cent of turnover, produced lower results than expected due to adverse climatic and economic conditions.

Interest costs were reduced from £5.37 million to £3.75 million, with gearing down from 129 per cent to 59 per cent. Analysts are looking for pre-tax profits of £13.5 million for 1990. The shares firmed by 1p to 162p.

Mr Tom said the market for quarry materials was particularly tight. Profit margins at the building products division, which had static turnover, were reduced due to a

## Investors still wary despite Nikkei rally

From Joe Joseph, Tokyo

JAPAN'S financial markets continued to taunt monetary officials and baffle investors as the yen sank to its lowest level in more than three years, and share prices, catching their breath after their recent slide, climbed nearly 1,500 points in the stock market's second biggest rally.

The dollar climbed Y1.33 to Y156.4, its highest point for 38 months, driven by the failure of the weekend talks in Los Angeles between US and Japanese finance ministers to convince dealers that a miracle cure had been found for Japan's headaches.

Dealers are wary of reading much into the Nikkei stock index's 1,468.33-point rise yesterday to 31,840.49, and there is no strong feeling that the market's plunge is over, even if few expect dramatic further falls from the currently depressed levels.

The hastily called talks between Mr Ryutaro Hashimoto, Japan's Finance Minister,

### COMPANY BRIEFS

#### BPP HOLDINGS (Fin)

Pre-tax £3.23m (£1.70m)

EPS: 13.5p (10.6p)

Div: 3.25p, mkg 5.25p

#### BEDFORD (WILLIAMS) (Fin)

Pre-tax £0.20m (£0.29m)

EPS: 3.3p (4.2p)

Div: 1p, mkg 1p (1p)

#### BOSTROM (Fin)

Pre-tax £2.80 (£2.12m)

EPS: 3.5p (3.2p)

#### COMPUTER PEOPLE (Fin)

Pre-tax £4.22m (£3.23m)

EPS: 21.80p (17.84p)

Div: 4.1p, mkg 5.85p

#### SYKES-PICKAVANT (Fin)

Pre-tax £1.58m (£1.72m)

EPS: 10.96p (12.88p)

Div: 3.5p, mkg 5.75p

#### TECHNOLOGY PROJECT

Pre-tax £1.71m (£1.18m)

EPS: 23.2p (16.0p)

Div: 6p, mkg 7.2p (6p)

Last year's total dividend was 4.2p. Company said that every part of the business produced record sales and profits. Turnover £21.1m (£10.2m).

Turnover £3.04m (£2.72m). Lower margins led to the fall in profit.

Turnover for first two months of current year down 52 per cent.

Total dividend is an increase of 18 per cent over total which board would have recommended in 1988 if enlarged capital had been in issue.

Last year's total dividend was 4.85p. Turnover advanced by 49 per cent to £68.9 million. It was another year of strong organic growth in Britain.

Last year's total dividend was 5.75p. There was an extraordinary charge of £485,000, relating to relocation of the Vitrex DIY business.

Final results. Board says the management will continue to exercise careful cost controls.

Turnover up 29.6 per cent to £14.1m.

It tempted a few buyers at lower levels to test conditions. It was trading at a small premium ahead of the expiry of the March contract on Friday.

A firmer pound eased pressure on interest rates and enabled government securities to sport gains stretching to 1½% at the longer end.

Blue chips with figures due soon attracted selective support. Lucas Industries rose 7p to 625p, Bawler 10p to 455p, Polly Peck 7p to 400p and Hawker Siddeley 4p to 654p.

Guinness, the brewing and distilling group, continued to make the most of last week's full-year results which exceeded even the most optimistic forecasts with pre-tax profits soaring from £521 million to £691 million. The latest of a number of brokers to reduce its forecast.

GEC has been sending out a signal to the City that some of its expectations were too high following the acquisition of various parts of Plessey.

Bid hopes sent Lancaster, the Honda and Jaguar motor distributor, soaring 56p to 698p as their re-rating continued.

Analysts have been raising their profit estimates for the current year. Barclays de Zoete Wedd has lifted its to £32.2 million and is also predicting £1 billion in 1991.

It says the annual earnings growth of more than 20 per cent means that the shares should continue to outperform the rest of the market.

GEC managed to shrug off another profits downgrading to finish 3p better at 208p.

County NatWest WoodMac, the broker, has trimmed its estimate for the current year by £25 million to £885 million.

Last year, the group said it was looking for a buyer for its financial services division.

MEPC ROSE 4p to 490p, helped by a buy recommendation from Charterhouse Tilney, the broker. Worries about its big City development programme should be offset by good news from the company and the knowledge that the 51 per cent discount between the share price and the asset value allows for a significant fall which is unlikely to materialise. The broker is forecasting a rise in pre-tax profits this year of £22.5 million to £150 million.

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**Portfolio****PLATINUM**

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page. Add them up to give you your overall total and compare it with the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the daily prize money stated. If you win, follow the instructions on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

**STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES****Good start to account**

**ACCOUNT DAYS:** Dealings began yesterday. Dealings end April 6. Contango day April 9. Settlement day April 17. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (aa) denotes Alpha Stocks.

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No.	Company	Group	Code	Price	High	Low	Chg. per	Gross	T.D.	P.E.
1	Rank Org (aa)	Industrials L-R		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
2	GKN (aa)	Industrials E-K		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
3	Allied-Lyons (aa)	Breweries		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
4	Lucas (aa)	Motors, Aircraft		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
5	Midland (aa)	Banks, Discount		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
6	Blockley's	Building, Roads		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
7	Alexon	Drapery, Stores		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
8	Ranger	Oil/Gas		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
9	Formusser	Drapery, Stores		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
10	Mount Charlotte	Hotels, Caters		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
11	Eurocyp	Industrials E-K		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
12	Berxford Ind (aa)	Foods		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
13	Jardine Math	Industrials E-K		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
14	Turner (aa)	Building, Roads		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
15	Midsummer	Leisure		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
16	Hawker Siddeley (aa)	Industrials E-K		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
17	Kingsbury (aa)	Drapery, Stores		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
18	Wace	Paper, Print, Adv		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
19	Nat West Bk	Banks, Discount		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
20	Bretts	Drapery, Stores		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
21	Redland (aa)	Building, Roads		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
22	Westpac	Banks, Discount		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
23	Klein-Eze	Industrials E-K		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
24	BET Ord (aa)	Industrials A-D		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
25	Castle Comm	Leisure		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
26	Independent	Newspapers, Pub		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
27	Chimies Int	Industrials A-D		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
28	Sextoy	Building, Roads		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
29	BAA (aa)	Electricals		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
30	British Gas	Banks, Discount		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
31	Derwent Hedges	Property		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
32	BPP	Newspapers, Pub		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
33	Brent Chemicals	Chemicals, Plas		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
34	Assoc Br Ports	Transport		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
35	Tate & Lyle	Foods		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
36	BiCC (aa)	Electricals		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
37	Ryf Bk Scp (aa)	Banks, Discount		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
38	Savoy Hotels 'A'	Hotels, Caters		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
39	Land Sec (aa)	Property		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
40	Davy	Industrials A-D		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
41	Tribury Group	Building, Roads		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
42	Ass New Z	Banks, Discount		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
43	Rivers	Industrials L-R		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
44	MEPC (aa)	Property		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20
45	Times Newspapers Ltd	Daily Total		11.20	11.25	11.15	+0.05	11.20	11.15	11.20

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend										
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4,000 that appears in Saturday's newspaper.										
MON										
11.20	11.25	11.15	11.20	11.25	11.15	11.20	11.25	11.15	11.20	11.25

Yesterday's £2,000 Portfolio Platinum prize was shared by three winners: Mrs Suzi Quadra of Seedy Park, Bristol; Mr Donald Harrison of Hurst Green, Blackburn; and Mr Adrian Whitworth of Warwick Square, London SW1, receive £666.66 each.

BRITISH FUNDS										
1989/90	High	Low	Stock	Per	Chg.	Int.	Gross	Div.	T.D.	P.E.
				per	per	per	per	per	per	per
SHORTS (Under Five Years)										
1	11.20	11.25	11.15	11.20	11.25	11.15	11.20	11.25	11.15	11.20
2	11.20	11.25	11.15	11.20	11.25	11.15	11.20	11.25	11.15	11.20
3	11.20	11.25	11.15	11.20	11.25	11.15	11.20	11.25	11.15	11.20
4	11.20	11.25	11.15	11.20	11.25	11.15	11.20	11.25	11.15	11.20
5	11.20	11.25	11.15	11.20	11.25	11.15	11.20	11.25	11.15	11.20
6	11.20	11.25	11.15	11.20	11.25	11.15	11.20	11.25	11.15	11.20
7	11.20	11.25	11.15	11.20	11.25	11.15	11.20	11.25	11.15	11.20
8	11.20	11.25	11.15	11.20	11.25	11.15	11.20	11.25	11.15	11.20
9	11.20	11.25	11.15	11.20	11.25	11.15</td				

## BUSINESS LETTERS

## Questions left unasked

**From Mr S. D. Lewis**  
Sir, I was simply astonished to read your article concerning the Blue Arrow payouts made to former directors of the National Westminster Bank who failed to "carry out the real responsibility for the lawful conduct of business at the bank".

This on top of glib announcements by that Bank and other clearing banks of massive losses over loans to third world countries and the offer of an extravagantly remunerated part time job by Barclays Bank to a former Chancellor of the Exchequer who totally misjudged government policy in his 1988 Budget.

All this, yet nobody says a word. Small wonder we have runaway inflation and are teetering on the brink of recession.

If, as a Chartered Accountant, I failed to carry out my lawful responsibility I would probably find myself fighting an action in the High Court for damages.

Why are the clearing bank shareholders not asking some questions? Why is the press not calling for explanations?

Yours faithfully,  
S. D. LEWIS  
Central Buildings,  
41 North John Street,  
Liverpool.

## CBI members at root of speculative disease

**From Mr A. G. Biggart**  
Sir, On March 12, Fenbridge announced its first disposal since it won control of DRG — that is to say, the break-up of another world-competitive British company began.

Small wonder that John Banham, Director-General of the CBI, felt constrained, at the end of his article vigorously defending British Industry (*The Times*, March 15) to state the need for the right policies to encourage ownership rather than speculation. What he did not say — how could he? — was that the cause of the speculative disease lies

in part in the activities of his own members. They have encouraged the growth of a new profession — "Investor Relations" — which, at great cost to corporate Britain, works to integrate the UK Chief Executive into the City Establishment. Once in, he quite quickly develops a taste for dealing — sell this, buy that — destroying in this way the stability required within a business for organic growth to take place. And the speculation is compounded with the realisation that the buyer can be hit and the predator become the prey,

v *Cranes Christmas & Co.* This also throws light on Mr Taylor's questions.

Mr Candler, considering buying shares, wanted to see the company accounts. A director asked his accountant to give them to him and the accountant also discussed them with him and explained them to him. He knew exactly why this was being done. On the strength of this, Mr Candler bought the shares. In fact, the accounts were wrong, negligently so, and the shares were worthless. Mr Candler sued the accountants. Their counsel argued that no action had ever been allowed for negligent statements. This cut no ice with Lord Denning. In one of those marvellous judgments that light up the law reports like flashbulbs, he

pointed out that this argument was put forward in all the milestone cases. "On the one side there were the timid souls who were fearful of allowing a new cause of action. On the other side there were the bold spirits who were ready to allow it if justice so required."

On this occasion, timidity roared back. Asquith LJ said: "I am not concerned with defending the existing state of the law or contending that it is strictly logical — it clearly is not. I am merely recording what I think it is. If this relieves me to the company of 'timorous souls', I must face that consequence with such fortitude as I can command."

Lord Denning, whose view later prevailed, also explained

## Share certificates

**From Mr K. P. Davies**  
Sir, In an article by you in *The Times* of March 10, Mr Hugh Smith was reported as having said that it was not true that private investors valued share certificates highly and that they found the torrent of paper work major disincentive to investment.

I am a private investor and I and my friends do value share certificates most highly and I don't think one share certificate can be called "a torrent of paper work."

If one pays out quite a large sum of money, one expects some kind of receipt for it and

certainly when the new Taurus system comes into operation, I shall find some other home for money which I have to invest.

There is also the matter of executors in the event of a death.

It would be extremely difficult for them in some cases to find out what companies the dead person had shares in, particularly if these investments were well spread.

Yours faithfully,  
K. P. DAWES,  
Courtney Place,  
Lymington,  
Hampshire.  
March 21.

## Interest rates in US expected to remain steady

From Susan Ellicott,  
Washington

PRIVATE economists consider that the Federal Reserve is unlikely today to alter United States interest rate policy, amid signs that the worst risk of a recession in the American economy is over.

Many Fed watchers think the Fed's open market committee will not lower rates, even though many banks appear to be tightening credit because of heavier government regulation and uncertainty about the country's economic performance.

Fed officials have publicly expressed views in past weeks that the US economy is not in any immediate danger of falling into a period of negative growth.

Mr Alan Greenspan, the Fed chairman, told Congress that the chances of the United States slipping into a recession had diminished.

Mr Edward Kelly, a Fed governor, told Congress last week he was "confident that the economy has stabilized at a satisfactory level," although he said it was premature to describe US economic performance as improving.



Greenspan: more hopeful

A regional survey of the US economy by the Fed this month showed that the economy was growing slowly while the car industry showed signs of weakness. Inflation is running at an annual rate of about 4.5 per cent, which is considered relatively high in the US.

The last interest change by the Fed was in December when the Federal funds rate, the overnight inter-bank lending rate, was cut a quarter percentage point to about 8.25 per cent.

## HOW THE TOP COMPANIES PAY

Below we compare the profits earned by each employee with the average wage and the average director's salary for the leading 100 companies in the UK.

Report, page 4

Company	Profits per employee (£)	Avg wages (£)	Avg directors pay (£)
1 Enterprise Oil	268,500	32,100	77,857
2 Slough Estates	157,100	22,600	90,000
3 Racal Telecom	92,200	18,300	10,057
4 Lasmo	59,000	22,000	50,656
5 BTR	52,900	18,500	48,230
6 Glaxo	35,000	18,700	300,000
7 Carlton Comms	31,100	18,400	-
8 Guinness	26,100	15,600	100,000
9 Rommans Int'l	23,600	19,200	183,333
10 BAA	22,900	17,100	116,666
11 Reuters	21,400	27,300	66,088
12 BPS Industries	17,600	18,000	10,000
13 British Petroleum	15,500	20,400	285,250
14 BP Gas	16,300	14,400	66,656
15 Cable & Wireless	14,300	10,200	150,000
16 Wellcome	13,900	15,500	158,250
17 Tarmac	13,600	12,800	120,000
18 Burmah Oil	13,400	16,800	100,000
19 Blue Circle Industries	12,500	13,400	76,923
20 GUS	12,400	8,500	100,000
21 Cobroton	12,000	14,000	100,000
22 Cossor International	12,300	15,200	125,000
23 Fisons	12,200	16,200	120,000
24 Hanson	12,000	12,000	665,666
25 Rank Organisation	11,900	8,300	83,333
26 Taylor Woodrow	11,500	13,900	87,500
27 ICI	11,300	17,900	456,250
28 English China Clay	10,900	16,000	65,666
29 Tate & Lyle	10,800	17,300	91,888
30 British Steel	10,600	8,700	128,571
31 Pilkington	10,500	12,500	133,130
32 RTT	10,400	8,700	123,076
33 British Telecom	10,000	18,200	120,000
34 Redland	9,900	14,500	93,026
35 BAT Industries	9,500	8,400	216,000
36 Maxwell Comms	9,400	20,400	320,000
37 Trafalgar House	9,300	16,500	164,206
38 Smith & Nephew	9,000	11,100	65,666
39 GEC	8,900	13,000	109,030
40 Fisons, Albert	8,800	11,000	110,000
41 Recitti & Colman	8,800	10,800	129,166
42 Williams	8,600	12,000	171,600
43 BOC	8,500	15,700	345,454
44 BTR	8,300	12,100	108,333
45 Smith Industries	8,210	15,000	110,000
46 United Newspapers	7,700	17,600	128,500
47 Pearson	7,600	13,500	158,333
48 British Schweppes	7,500	13,600	173,333
49 Kwik Save	7,500	7,500	50,111
50 Marks & Spencer	6,800	8,100	170,000
51 STC	6,800	20,900	115,334
52 Pilkington	6,700	17,100	140,000
53 Allied Lyons	6,200	8,800	222,222
54 Burton	6,000	7,900	380,000
55 Granada	6,900	11,400	100,000
56 Granada	5,900	7,800	128,571
57 Sedgwick	5,900	20,000	125,000
58 PMS	5,700	10,200	225,000
59 CRH	5,600	15,500	164,933
60 GEC	5,500	13,100	142,857
61 Scottish & Newcastle	5,400	7,700	100,000
62 British Airways	5,300	20,600	150,000
63 Racal Electronics	5,300	15,300	156,633
64 Unilever	5,200	7,700	181,518
65 Remondi	5,100	8,700	92,375
66 Stobart	5,000	12,500	133,333
67 Diligent	4,900	13,100	155,255
68 Adas	4,900	5,300	165,714
69 Grand Metropolitan	4,800	8,300	333,333
70 GKN	4,800	14,900	136,263
71 Sodexho	4,600	8,600	100,000
72 Harrison & Crosfield	4,500	5,800	111,111
73 FHM	4,500	10,200	128,571
74 Ascaso British Foods	4,500	6,500	71,428
75 Jaguar	3,900	6,500	22,016
76 Ford	3,800	6,200	129,571
77 Hillsdown	3,500	10,000	153,333
78 BTCC	3,500	8,500	177,777
79 Rolls Royce	4,200	15,200	182,529
80 Whitbread	4,000	5,800	89,333
81 Kingfisher	3,900	5,500	218,182
82 Currys Most Houses	3,900	6,500	-
83 Jaguar	3,900	16,300	-
84 Cadbury	3,800	6,200	130,769
85 United Biscuits	3,800	10,000	153,333
86 Hillsdown	3,500	8,500	177,777
87 Unilever	3,500	6,200	150,000
88 Lucas Industries	3,300	12,600	83,333
89 GEC	3,300	5,400	133,333
90 Courtaulds	3,100	10,100	91,666
91 Truehouse Forte	2,900	7,400	76,571

## WORLD MARKET INDICES

Index	Value	Daily chg'ge (£)	Yearly chg'ge (£)	Daily chg'ge (%)	Yearly chg'ge (%)
The World (free)	730.5	0.7	-13.4	2.2	-13.4
EAPE (free)	139.5	0.7	-13.5	2.1	-13.5
Europe (free)	1281.8	1.6	-17.7	3.1	-17.7
Europe (free)	131.6	1.6			

## **THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE**

Ref	Offer	Cong	Tid	Bd	Offer	Cong	Tid	Bd	Offer	Cong	Tid	Bd	Offer	Cong	Tid	Bd	Offer	Cong	Tid	Bd	Offer	Cong	Tid	Bd	Offer	Cong	Tid	Bd	Offer	Cong	Tid	
ABERY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS				Euro S S	78.28	84.51		2.25	Do Inc	203.1	311.9	+0.3	5.52	KEY FUND MANAGERS				Do Acc	23.05	14.84	+0.10	0.55	Income	226.1	254.5	-0.2	4.43	FinanceProp	20.11	22.14	+0.08	4.15
SD Holdings Ltd, Nottinghamshire BINS SAL	Tel 01621 77373 (Lines)			Euro S S	70.54	75.28		0.74	Do Inc	110.4	116.3	+1.3	1.22	26. Powers Street Manchester M2 2AF				Do Acc	22.62	21.21	+0.28	0.25	Flexi/Conv	24.45	25.77	-0.17	0.25	Flexi/Conv	50.11	51.67	+0.16	0.25
GM/Ford	1010.8 107.08 +0.4 10.28			Euro S S	77.28	77.05		4.02	Do Inc	71.52	73.94	+0.0	10.11	26. Powers Street Manchester M2 2AF	Tel 01621 230 302			Do Acc	20.51	19.77	+0.17	0.23	Equity Inc	57.72	58.58	-0.22	0.24	Equity Inc	50.22	51.84	+0.12	0.24
High Inc Equity	136.3 145.0 0.0 4.38			Euro S S	68.45	68.25		5.49	Do Inc	165.1	165.1	+0.7	0.20	26. Powers Street Manchester M2 2AF	Tel 01621 230 302			Do Acc	22.49	22.02	+0.17	0.24	Equity Inc	57.72	58.58	-0.22	0.24	Equity Inc	50.22	51.84	+0.12	0.24
Wrigley Bond	186.0 200.00 -2.4 6.15			Euro S S	68.45	68.25		5.49	Do Inc	202.2	204.7	+0.1	0.07	26. Powers Street Manchester M2 2AF	Tel 01621 230 302			Do Acc	22.49	22.02	+0.17	0.24	Equity Inc	57.72	58.58	-0.22	0.24	Equity Inc	50.22	51.84	+0.12	0.24
Asian Growth	184.7 207.2			Euro S S	70.25	74.33		0.75	Do Inc	318.3	324.2	+0.2	0.04	26. Powers Street Manchester M2 2AF	Tel 01621 230 302			Do Acc	22.49	22.02	+0.17	0.24	Equity Inc	57.72	58.58	-0.22	0.24	Equity Inc	50.22	51.84	+0.12	0.24
Asian Pacific	182.7 191.8			Euro S S	70.25	74.33		0.75	Do Inc	318.3	324.2	+0.2	0.04	26. Powers Street Manchester M2 2AF	Tel 01621 230 302			Do Acc	22.49	22.02	+0.17	0.24	Equity Inc	57.72	58.58	-0.22	0.24	Equity Inc	50.22	51.84	+0.12	0.24
Asian Income	184.2 194.1			Euro S S	70.25	74.33		0.75	Do Inc	318.3	324.2	+0.2	0.04	26. Powers Street Manchester M2 2AF	Tel 01621 230 302			Do Acc	22.49	22.02	+0.17	0.24	Equity Inc	57.72	58.58	-0.22	0.24	Equity Inc	50.22	51.84	+0.12	0.24
Asian Fund	184.2 194.1			Euro S S	70.25	74.33		0.75	Do Inc	318.3	324.2	+0.2	0.04	26. Powers Street Manchester M2 2AF	Tel 01621 230 302			Do Acc	22.49	22.02	+0.17	0.24	Equity Inc	57.72	58.58	-0.22	0.24	Equity Inc	50.22	51.84	+0.12	0.24
Com/Expo	180.8 194.0			Euro S S	70.25	74.33		0.75	Do Inc	318.3	324.2	+0.2	0.04	26. Powers Street Manchester M2 2AF	Tel 01621 230 302			Do Acc	22.49	22.02	+0.17	0.24	Equity Inc	57.72	58.58	-0.22	0.24	Equity Inc	50.22	51.84	+0.12	0.24
Euro Cap/Expo	184.4 194.0			Euro S S	70.25	74.33		0.75	Do Inc	318.3	324.2	+0.2	0.04	26. Powers Street Manchester M2 2AF	Tel 01621 230 302			Do Acc	22.49	22.02	+0.17	0.24	Equity Inc	57.72	58.58	-0.22	0.24	Equity Inc	50.22	51.84	+0.12	0.24
Euro Capital	184.4 194.0			Euro S S	70.25	74.33		0.75	Do Inc	318.3	324.2	+0.2	0.04	26. Powers Street Manchester M2 2AF	Tel 01621 230 302			Do Acc	22.49	22.02	+0.17	0.24	Equity Inc	57.72	58.58	-0.22	0.24	Equity Inc	50.22	51.84	+0.12	0.24
General	170.2 181.8			Euro S S	70.25	74.33		0.75	Do Inc	318.3	324.2	+0.2	0.04	26. Powers Street Manchester M2 2AF	Tel 01621 230 302			Do Acc	22.49	22.02	+0.17	0.24	Equity Inc	57.72	58.58	-0.22	0.24	Equity Inc	50.22	51.84	+0.12	0.24
Japan	184.4 194.0			Euro S S	70.25	74.33		0.75	Do Inc	318.3	324.2	+0.2	0.04	26. Powers Street Manchester M2 2AF	Tel 01621 230 302			Do Acc	22.49	22.02	+0.17	0.24	Equity Inc	57.72	58.58	-0.22	0.24	Equity Inc	50.22	51.84	+0.12	0.24
UK Off	184.4 194.0			Euro S S	70.25	74.33		0.75	Do Inc	318.3	324.2	+0.2	0.04	26. Powers Street Manchester M2 2AF	Tel 01621 230 302			Do Acc	22.49	22.02	+0.17	0.24	Equity Inc	57.72	58.58	-0.22	0.24	Equity Inc	50.22	51.84	+0.12	0.24
EUROPE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD				Euro S S	73.28	74.34	-0.2	1.25	Do Inc	203.1	311.9	+0.3	5.52	26. Powers Street Manchester M2 2AF	Tel 01621 230 302			Do Acc	22.49	22.02	+0.17	0.24	Equity Inc	57.72	58.58	-0.22	0.24	Equity Inc	50.22	51.84	+0.12	0.24
SD Holdings Ltd, Abingdon BINS SAL	Tel 01865 330687 (01865) 330687			Euro S S	174.2	184.7		0.53	Do Inc	165.1	165.1	+0.7	0.20	26. Powers Street Manchester M2 2AF	Tel 01621 230 302			Do Acc	22.49	22.02	+0.17	0.24	Equity Inc	57.72	58.58	-0.22	0.24	Equity Inc	50.22	51.84	+0.12	0.24
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SD Holdings Ltd, Abingdon BINS SAL	Tel 01865 330687 (01865) 330687			Euro S S	174.2	184.7		0.53	Do Inc	165.1	165.1	+0.7	0.20	26. Powers Street Manchester M2 2AF	Tel 01621 230 302			Do Acc	22.49	22.02	+0.17	0.24	Equity Inc	57.72	58.58	-0.22	0.24	Equity Inc	50.22	51.84	+0.12	0.24
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## **UNLISTED SECURITIES**

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## THE LAW

## Advocates on trial

Solicitors are not bad advocates after all. The best are every bit as convincing, theatrical and articulate as their counterparts at the Bar. I discovered this self-evident truth at the Law Society's 35th advocacy training course in the old spa town of Malvern earlier this month.

My own interest in the course stemmed from pioneering rights of audience in 1985 for solicitors in High Court libel settlements in the case of Leo Abse MP and others v. Cyril Smith MP. The course aims to give articulated clerks (now "trainee solicitors"), newly qualified solicitors and others an insight into pleas in mitigation, bail applications and simple cases in magistrates' courts and county courts.

It was also a timely reminder to City solicitors — accustomed to the cut and thrust of High Court litigation in London — that there are "solicitor advocates" up and down the country doing immensely important and often harrowing work for clients in juvenile courts, child care proceedings, industrial tribunals and magistrates' courts, every day of the week.

The concentrated three-day course was an interesting mixture of lectures, demonstrations from the team leaders and practical exercises in groups. The team

**Alastair Brett on  
a training course  
which demonstrates the strengths and  
weaknesses of the 'solicitor advocate'**

## LEGAL BRIEF

leaders — we were split into seven groups of 20 each — were specialist advocates from firms like Hunt Dickens in Nottingham, Cox & Hodgetts in Evesham and Sir David Napley's firm, Kingsey Napley, in London.

Above all, the course taught everyone that "preparation" is the key to successful advocacy. Those of us who had failed to read the background information sheets before the practical exercises on shoplifting, ancillary relief, affray and personal injuries actions ended up receiving the kind of "going over" that county court judges and stipendiary magistrates can give inexperienced young barristers and solicitors who have not done their homework.

Far from finding the course a pleasurable break, I had to get up at 7 am to read the papers and prepare for the practical exercises. The result of this hard work and youthful enthusiasm was that by the third day the hotel was showing concern about the bar

takings from course members.

If the performances of the team leaders demonstrated how good experienced solicitor advocates can be — Susanna Poppleton, from Hunt Dickens in Nottingham, gave a prize-winning performance as the tearful and distraught mother in the child care demonstration — the lack of experience and forensic analysis of some course members was quite frightening.

Short films for screening in the evenings could show course members how barristers, the real High Court "pros", take notes, structure their examinations in chief and work out which lines of cross-examination are worth following up.

Later this year, the Courts and Legal Services Bill will complete its passage through Parliament and Lord Mackay's Advisory Committee on Legal Education and Conduct will decide what qualifications solicitors need before they can take on cases in the Crown and High Court.

Often the articled clerk or young solicitor examining or cross-examining a witness had little or no idea in which direction he or she was going. Speeches were left unstructured and essential facts which had to be drawn out in evidence in chief were never properly presented to the court.

By the third day, with the adrenaline running high and course members starting to get an idea of what a testy county court judge

might be like when he could not see where a line of questioning was leading, it was time to go. By then we had an idea of good, bad and indifferent examination in chief, cross-examination and re-examination. Somewhat appropriately, I was asked to cross-examine a "woman police officer", a young assistant solicitor from Lovell White Durant, who had just arrested someone outside a "print works in Wapping Lane, East London".

After finding out how difficult examination in chief can be, it became clear the course was not long enough, the groups needed to be smaller, and each group might usefully be equipped with a video camera to show people how they performed in examining or cross-examining witnesses.

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Showing the way: team leaders Peter Pinum (left) and John Clitheroe at the advocacy training course

The Law Society's advocacy training course would be a useful start for City solicitors who have no experience of advocacy in the lower courts — magistrates' courts and county courts — but who want to do limited advocacy in the High Court.

But the course needs to be supplemented with a series of

additional courses of up to a week for those wanting to specialize in particular divisions of the High Court, or specialist areas such as defamation or building cases in the Official Referee's Court.

Indeed, the Lord Chancellor's original idea of granting "certificates of competence" to advocates so they can appear in certain

courts, or in cases involving specialist areas of law, is not such a bad one for those still keen to hear the sound of their own voices, but with no wish to start from scratch doing pleas in mitigation or bail applications.

• The author is Company Solicitor to Times Newspapers.

## Law Report March 27 1990 Court of Appeal

## Doctor's relationship with family practitioner committee is contractual

*Roy v Kensington and Chelsea and Westminster Family Practitioner Committee*  
Before Lord Justice Neill, Lord Justice Neuberger and Lord Justice Balcombe [Judgment March 22]

The relationship between a general medical practitioner and the family practitioner committee which accepted his application for inclusion on the medical list of their locality was contractual.

Mr Michael Briggs for Dr Roy; Mr Richard Greening for the committee.

LORD JUSTICE BALCOMBE said that the reason for the judge's decision had been that respect of those parts of the plaintiff's statement of claim delivered in an action against the defendant family practitioner committee.

The plaintiff was a general medical practitioner who had since 1954 practised in the area for which the defendants were

responsible. He was on the list of doctors undertaking, for the purposes of the National Health Service Act 1977, to provide general medical services for persons in the committee's locality.

Since at least the mid-1960s he had always had more than 1,000 patients registered with him. There had been no complaints from individual patients of the service that Dr Roy had provided.

However, he had frequently been absent from the practice between 1979 and 1987 he had been absent, either due to the claim that the defendant had struck out, the plaintiff should have applied for judicial review rather than have proceeded by ordinary action.

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The plaintiff was a general medical practitioner who had since 1954 practised in the area for which the defendants were

responsible. He was on the list of doctors undertaking, for the purposes of the National Health Service Act 1977, to provide general medical services for persons in the committee's locality.

Since at least the mid-1960s he had always had more than 1,000 patients registered with him. There had been no complaints from individual patients of the service that Dr Roy had provided.

However, he had frequently been absent from the practice between 1979 and 1987 he had been absent, either due to the claim that the defendant had struck out, the plaintiff should have applied for judicial review rather than have proceeded by ordinary action.

The plaintiff was a general medical practitioner who had since 1954 practised in the area for which the defendants were

## LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

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Application form and particulars from Angela Sydenham, Country Landowners' Association, 16 Belgrave Square, London, SW1X 8PQ (Tel. 01-235 0511).

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- supervision of videogram royalties, third party accounting, and output licensing deals;
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Salary by negotiation. Please apply in writing (with C.V. and details of current salary) to Robert Carter, Reiner Morris Associates Ltd., 44 Great Marlborough Street, London W1V 1DB.



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## Interlocutory discretionary power to state case to be used sparingly

Regina v Chesterfield Justices, Ex parte Kovacs and Another Before Mr Justice Rock [Judgment March 17]

Justices possessed a discretionary power to state a case on an interlocutory matter or prior to the determination of an appeal to them in a civil case but that discretion should be exercised only in exceptional cases.

Mr Justice Rock so held in the Queen's Bench Division when refusing to grant judicial review of the refusal of Chesterfield Justices to state a case on a preliminary issue before their determination of an appeal by the applicants, Ms Charlotte Kovacs and Ms Heather Faubert, against a prohibition notice served on them by Derbyshire Fire Service.

The applicants were tenants of a flat comprising the ground floor, first floor and second floor of a terraced house in Chesterfield and lived there with their small children. The lower ground floor of the house consisted of a self-contained flat which independent access.

On October 10, 1989 Derbyshire Fire Service made a prohibition notice, in pursuance of section 10 of the Fire Prevention Act 1971, with the effect that occupation was restricted to the ground floor and basement so that the applicants and their children would not be able to use the bathroom and lavatory or any of the bedrooms.

The risk alleged in the notice was "inadequate means of escape from the first and second floors".

Contravention of the restriction would be an offence under section 10B of the 1971 Act, as substituted by section 9 of the Fire Safety and Safety of Places of Sport Act 1987, and an offender would be liable on summary conviction to an unlimited fine or a term of imprisonment not exceeding two years, or both.

The schedule of works required covered three pages and included the provision of six fire resisting doors, three emergency lighting points, two fire

## THE LAW

# Cutting out the legal jargon

**S**andwiched between the Budget and the mid-Staffordshire by-election, the launch last week of TransAction, the Law Society's National Conveyancing Protocol Scheme, lacked the good timing necessary to achieve maximum publicity and impact. To compound the embarrassment, some rank-and-file solicitors are unhappy that the society failed to deliver its information to them on schedule.

"In terms of publicity, it has left a lot to be desired," says one solicitor. "What does the Law Society think it is playing at? Its performance over the launch of the scheme could not have been worse."

But while the society is winning few plaudits for its publicity skills, its rating on the the scheme itself is high. Solicitors up and down the country's high streets are applauding TransAction as an important step in improving the efficiency of the service they give to the public.

Stephen Gold, solicitor and author of *Gold's Law*, and a popularizer of legal issues, says: "I welcome TransAction as a way of cutting through the mystique which has surrounded conveyancing for far too long."

Just as important, Mr Gold says, is that the spirit of simplicity and efficiency should be carried through

**Edward Fennell**  
explains how the  
Law Society's new  
TransAction scheme  
should simplify  
conveyancing

to lawyers' other communications with clients. "We should be missing a great opportunity if we failed to translate our correspondence into plain English. We must have consistency between the contract and the solicitors' letters."

Karen Conway, of Cranswick Watson, says: "Here in Yorkshire, it is going to make a big difference. It should definitely speed up the transaction and it should also do something to improve the image problem of solicitors."

The public perception of lawyers as slow and inefficient is clearly a worry that still weighs heavily on many solicitors, especially as the threat of competition from the financial institutions is starting to take on formidable shape.

But the real question is whether

or not TransAction will help solicitors collectively in the conveyancing market place. Or, indeed, whether it will, as David Knox of Barlows, a Guildford firm, put it, "enable the Law Society to steal a march on the Lord Chancellor".

"I am afraid I think that we may have gone past the point at which we could fight off the financial institutions," says Emrys Pierce, of Merills Edie, a Cardiff legal firm. "We should have done it years ago."

One observer of the legal scene believes that once the big financial institutions get involved in conveyancing, offering it as part of their home-buying package, they will take 10 per cent of the market from solicitors within the first 12 months. For TransAction to be an effective marketing tool in the profession's hands, he says, it should have been launched in the mid-1980s when the house market was buoyant.

Meanwhile, solicitors throughout the country will, no doubt, be using TransAction as a publicity weapon to fight each other. Ian Slinger, of Midlands firm Owston, for example, has become the local TransAction guru in Leicestershire by appearing on local radio and writing for the local newspaper. A good opportunity for him, certainly, but it may be a bit too late for the profession as a whole.



Solicitor Stephen Gold: "I welcome a way of cutting through the mystique"

## INNS AND OUTS

**D**espite all the petty squabbling over the Courts and Legal Services Bill, the Bar Council and the Law Society are united in their concern over one issue: the declining level of eligibility for help under the legal aid schemes. In a joint letter to the Lord Chancellor last week, the two bodies called for an independent review of legal aid eligibility, to report within six months. They argue that the general review of the legal aid scheme announced by the Lord Chancellor last year is flawed. It will take two to three years to complete, and the focus on the "better targeting" of legal aid sounds suspiciously as though it will lead to a further restriction on eligibility. The fact that the review will be conducted by civil servants behind closed doors is also worrying, especially when the Government has hotly disputed the finding of previous reviews.

A speedy independent review is urgently needed because eligibility levels have failed to modify to take into account progressive increases in disposable income. The annual updating of eligibility levels by 3.2 per cent does not even keep eligibility limits in line with inflation. In 1979, the head of a household with a dependent spouse and two children, earning an average income, was eligible for contributory legal aid. Today he would not qualify for any help under the scheme. The same individual earning two thirds of the national average income, would have to contribute 7.02 per cent of gross income in order to qualify, compared with no contributions in 1979.

**W**hile the City grumbled about the Budget, the flag went out on the desks of women all over the country. John Major hit the right button when he announced that from April 6 employees will be exempt from income tax on the benefit of workplace nurseries provided by their employers. The exemption applies to nurseries run at the place of work or elsewhere by either the employer alone or jointly with other employers, voluntary bodies or local authorities. The pressure on law firms to provide nursery facilities for the growing numbers of women lawyers, as well as the female members of their support staff, will now be intense.

**B**ut whether the City law firms will want to splash out on nursery facilities in these increasingly troubled times is open to question as the recent plight of accountancy firms has shown. Much of their fantastic growth in the late 1980s came from setting up corporate finance and management consultancy arms, high margin business which fed off the accountants' staple auditing work. But in these difficult days the first thing the client is cutting back on is specialist consultancy services.

The premium work is dwindling away and with incomes increasing at barely 7 per cent, the accountants are starting to feel the squeeze. The City law firms have also grown used to a steady diet of advising on mergers and acquisitions, flotations and management buy-outs, often in direct competition with the accountancy firms. And the lawyers are suffering the same drop in work. Riding on the boom, many grew rapidly, taking on more lawyers, merging and opening expensive overseas offices (especially Tokyo). City watchers anticipate signs of stress.

**R**ecipients of the first issue of the recently launched *Legal Business* may have been impressed by the long list of "founder subscribers" which, the magazine claimed, gave it a "larger subscriber-base than the *New Law Journal*, *The Solicitors Journal* or the *Lawyer*". However, word has reached Scrivenor that some of the firms listed were rather upset to see their name used in that way. Founder subscribers meant, it seems, that a firm had indicated it was interested in seeing the new publication, with a view to subscribing, but as a later letter from the publisher, *Legalease*, confirmed "it was specifically agreed that the firm would be under no obligation to proceed." If the firm did choose to subscribe, all the partners and senior managers would receive copies at a substantial discount. *Legal Business* rather looks as if it has put the cart before the horse.

Scrivenor

## Why I oppose the wind of change

Should we meddle with a highly respected contracts procedures?

**A**n important international change is pending which has received little attention. The UK Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods is the subject of a consultation document from the Department of Trade and Industry, dated June this year.

The convention, already ratified by 19 countries, including the United States, proposes a new law for "cross-border" sale of goods. Its provisions are complex but not comprehensive. National law of the contracting parties will still be relevant, even when the countries of both have ratified.

This is because some important elements of contract law, such as when property passes, the validity of the contract, the effect of usage, liability for death or personal injury and the essential requirement of capacity to contract, are all left to be decided by national law. National laws, of course, differ widely on the subject.

The stated object of adopting "uniform rules which govern contracts for the International Sale of

Goods" so as to "...contribute to the removal of legal barriers in international trade" is obviously desirable – but not so easy to achieve. It is not, regrettably, likely to be realized by ratification of the convention because as much of national law remains.

International accord on vexed questions such as the need to establish commercial benefit in relation to reliance on guarantees by a parent of a subsidiary company's liability, contracts outside the scope of a company's memorandum of association, and the like are not mentioned in the convention.

Worse, the existing certainty of our own law of contract would be undermined by provisions in Article 8 of the convention, which provides that the written terms as agreed between the parties could be displaced if one party were to rely on preceding negotiations or subsequent conduct as proof of the

intent of either party at the time of contracting. This might displace the intention set out in the written contract itself.

Certainty as to the terms and effects of the contract is of paramount importance and would be imperilled by the provision of "convention law", should it apply.

Two earlier conventions with the same basic theme are already part of our law by reason of the Uniform Laws on International Sales Act 1967. There is no single case recorded of any contract subject to the provisions of this Act coming before the courts for interpretation or enforcement. The vital difference is that the earlier conventions do not apply unless the contracting parties say they shall. Presumably, few have done so. This contrasts with the provisions of the present convention in that a contract as defined would be subject to the "convention law", unless the

contracting parties expressly excluded it.

The trouble is that people tend to forget. "Convention law", if not excluded, will apply and our own business community may find itself, to its own surprise, faced with a defence, perhaps that the other party to the contract had no capacity to contract under his/her own national law or bound by terms which our UK businessmen have never heard of, and which even then may be varied because of the intentions of the opposing party at the time or, even because of subsequent events.

A further cogent point is that if the UK ratifies it, "convention law" will become part of English law. At present, English law, and the judges who administer it, are so highly regarded that cases heard in the Commercial Court in the last year the parties were split roughly 50-50 between English and foreign litigants.

**Derek Wheatley QC**  
• The author, formerly chief legal adviser at Lloyds Bank, is now in private practice at the Bar.

gants and, almost more surprisingly, nearly 30 per cent of all the cases had no English litigant at all.

This tremendous accolade for English law and for English justice must be imperilled by the UK adopting a common denominator, a "convention law" thrashed out around a negotiating table, to which nobody had seriously objected but in which there is clearly no discernible advantage, either.

Convention law is to be interpreted by the courts of all the countries concerned. This raises a somewhat daunting prospect and the unanswered question of "what happens when interpretations differ?"

We must not be deceived by the glitz of a uniformity that will not be achieved. We must not imperil the excellent status English law and its administrators undoubtedly have in the eyes of the world.

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Continued on  
next page

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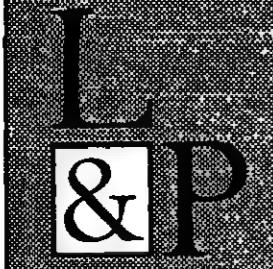
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Afterwards, you will be able to talk informally over drinks with him and a number of his colleagues, including some who have recently joined the firm.

The seminar should be of particular interest to both solicitors and barristers, especially those recently qualified or approaching qualification this year.

If you would like to attend the evening, which is to be held on 4th April 1990 at 6.30pm at Michael Page Legal, 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 5LH please call Katrina Smith on 01-831 2000 or write to her at the above address.

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BAR TRAINING** £35,000

Due to the expansion of our Bar training programmes for the Academic Year 1990/91 we seek a full-time Course Director for these courses.

Applicants will be required to demonstrate flair and motivation to develop and extend our activities in this area.

Applications in writing with full Curriculum Vitae to N Bourne, Holborn College, 200 Greyhound Road, London W14 9RY. Tel: 01-385 3377. Fax: 01-381 3377

Closing date for applications 30th April 1990.

01-481 4481

**LEGAL APPOINTMENTS**

01-481 4481

**Lawyers**

**Are you seeking a career as a Lawyer in the front line of the International Business World?**

If the answer is "YES", please read on because we are looking for young Lawyers who are interested in a career, initially at least, as a Legal Adviser within an International Group of Companies.

The Legal Divisions of the Royal Dutch/Shell Group of Companies are involved in a wide range of activities relating to the commercial, corporate, financial and other aspects of the businesses of their respective companies which are working worldwide in oil, gas, chemicals, coal, metals and new areas such as forestry.

Due to ever increasing requirements for in-house legal advice, there are immediate vacancies in the Legal Divisions of Shell U.K. Limited in the Strand and Shell International Petroleum Company Limited at Waterloo. Depending on the experience, aptitudes and inclinations of successful applicants initial assignments could cover any, or in some cases more than one, of the following legal fields:

- corporate finance including acquisitions
- large overseas joint ventures
- design, construction and technology agreements
- international trading and shipping
- competition
- commercial and consumer
- environment.

Following this there will be opportunities to develop a career as a legal generalist, as our Legal Advisers are not restricted to one area of law, or alternatively in a non-legal field.

Applicants must have a consistently good academic record, including an honours degree in an appropriate discipline, not necessarily law, and have had at least two years legal experience in private practice or industry after qualifying as a Solicitor or Barrister. Apart from working to the highest professional standards, you should possess the ability to communicate clearly and effectively with all levels of management and to play a full part as a member of multi-discipline business teams.

Remuneration, including a wide range of benefits, will be fully competitive.

For applications to both Shell companies, please write or telephone for an application form quoting reference D/009 to:

Shell U.K. Limited, UKPR/5  
Shell-Mex House, Strand, London WC2R 0DX.  
Telephone: 01-257 3929

The closing date for return of applications is 17th April 1990.



## SENIOR LEGAL OFFICER SALARY NEGOTIABLE

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  - document approval.
  - close liaison with Product Development teams.
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### BENEFITS

- \* Non-contributory Pension Scheme
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If you feel you have the right qualities and commitment to join us, please contact Erica Harley or Tracey Summers on (0272) 263566 or (0272) 215480 or send your C.V. to them at The Personnel Department, The Mi-Group, St Bartholomew's House, Lewin's Mead, Bristol BS1 2NH.

## COMPANY COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITIES Partner Designate & Assistant Solicitor

A substantial progressive City practice with commercial clients, ranging from recently established businesses to listed companies at home and abroad, offers the following appointments.

**Partner Designate.** A high calibre solicitor is sought by the rapidly expanding Company Commercial Department to advise on corporate, commercial and financial matters. Applicants should have at least five years post admission experience, preferably in a leading City practice. The successful applicant will contribute fully to the development of this imaginative, energetic practice. There are excellent prospects of early equity partnership.

**Assistant Solicitor.** Applicants should have at least one year's relevant post admission experience in a leading City or provincial practice. Newly admitted solicitors who have acquired sound company commercial experience in Articles will be considered. Opportunities for rapid advancement are excellent. Remuneration will reflect ability and commitment.

To be considered for either of these appointments, or to discuss your suitability, please contact John Hamilton, or Helen Gould quoting JH/324 at:

John Hamilton Associates, Friary Court, 13-21 High Street, Guildford, Surrey GU1 3DG  
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A fast-expanding division of one of the UK's leading merchant banks, our client has an outstanding reputation for project and asset-financing; in particular, it funds prestigious developments in a property or industrial context, usually for large and blue-chip corporations. Its legal team is increasingly busy and now seeks an additional member.

This is an exceptional opportunity for a lawyer qualified approximately 0-6 months to train in the stimulating environment of a merchant bank. Candidates must offer a commercial background and clear potential based on intelligence, self-confidence, drive and common sense. The appointee will enjoy a varied caseload, with some emphasis on drafting and advising on loan documentation.

As might be expected, this position carries a salary unlikely to be bettered in private practice, together with benefits which include mortgage subsidy, non-contributory pension, BUPA etc. Promotion prospects are excellent.

For further information please contact Philip Boynton, LL.B., LL.M., on 01-405 6852 or write to him at Reuter Simkin Ltd., 5 Bream's Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, EC4A 1DY.

## INTERNATIONAL LITIGATION TO £42,500 PLUS CAR

Our high profile medium-sized City client is regularly involved in major international litigation. Alive to the complexities of, and speed of response required on, multi-jurisdictional asset seizures it has forged close contacts with leading foreign firms.

Junior lawyers in the department are exposed to a stimulating range of work including intellectual property, media and communications disputes, employment and EEC work, as well as more general commercial disputes.

The firm is managed internally, as it is marketed externally, with dynamism and flair. Its lawyers receive top bi-annually reviewed City salaries and, after a qualifying period, a car. The department is looking for lawyers with up to three years' experience and partnership potential.

For further information, please contact Jonathan Macrae on 01-405 6062 (01-672 8340 evenings/weekends) or write to him at Quarry Dougall Recruitment, 9 Brownlow Street, London WCIV 6JD.



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## WHY COMMUTE TO QUALITY WORK? TO £32,500 + BENEFITS

Our Client, based in one of the few provincial legal centres that challenges London, is renowned for the quality of its commercial practice. Growing apace with the demands of its enviable client base, it seeks further ambitious, high calibre lawyers to take it through the '90s and beyond.

Due to continued expansion, the firm has vacancies in corporate finance, tax, banking, insolvency, construction and commercial property for lawyers with 2 to 3 years' experience who have something special to offer, and who are fed up with hours of travel each day yet remain hungry for a diet of challenging and rewarding work.

Successful applicants will be offered considerable autonomy and responsibility in addition to excellent prospects, relocation assistance, a generous salary and benefits package and a quality of life that City firms simply cannot match.

For further information, please contact Alistair Dougall on 01-405 6062 (01-773 3702 evenings/weekends) or write to Quarry Dougall Recruitment, 9 Brownlow Street, London WCIV 6JD.



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## INFORMATION OFFICER

Freshfields is a leading City law firm with new modern offices on Fleet Street.

We have a vacancy for an Information Officer to join our busy and enthusiastic team, responsible for the firm's in-house information resources.

The Information Officer will liaise with the firm's lawyers and will report to the Manager of our Information Bank. Duties will include current awareness, enquiry work, database development and maintenance of information files.



Applicants should have relevant information qualification together with some legal knowledge. Experience of working in a commercial environment would be an advantage.

We offer a competitive salary, dependent on qualification and experience, together with a comprehensive benefits package.

Please write enclosing CV and current salary details to Alan Davies, Information Bank Manager, Freshfields, Whitefriars, 65 Fleet Street, London EC4Y 1HT.

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01-481 4481

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## **LEGAL INFORMATION AND LIBRARY SERVICES MANAGER SUBSTANTIAL PACKAGE - CITY**

Our Client is one of the leading international firms of solicitors in the United Kingdom. Based in the City, with offices in major commercial centres worldwide, the firm continues to expand.

It is fundamental to the firm's professional philosophy and commitment to its clients that its fee-earning staff should be provided with comprehensive legal information support of the highest quality. Consequently the firm now seeks a Manager for its Legal Information Services Department to facilitate and co-ordinate the maintenance and development of its legal information resources.

Specific duties will include conducting research, maintaining and enhancing the quality and range of information services offered to qualified staff, the development of databases, overall responsibility for information files, precedents, practice notices and standard forms, and conducting induction training. In addition, the Manager will be responsible for the management and training of the Department's staff of six and the annual budget.

The successful candidate will ideally be aged between 28 and 36 and educated to degree level with a qualification in Information Services or Librarianship. He or she will be able to relate readily to high calibre professionals and may already be working as an Information Services Manager in a law firm, another professional practice or a bank.

The substantial package of salary and benefits will reflect the importance attached to this position.

For further information, please contact Alistair Dougall or Adrian Fox on 01-405 6062 (01-773 3702 evenings/weekends) or write to Quarry Dougall Recruitment, 9 Brownlow Street, London WCIV 6JD.



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- ◇ Legal division has several unique products with further considerable growth potential.
- ◇ Excellent reputation with wide range of clients.

**THE POSITION**

- ◇ Full profit responsibility for growth and development of division.
- ◇ Managing a small team with opportunity for further expansion.
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**QUALIFICATIONS**

- ◇ Dynamic leader and manager with marketing/selling skills, enthusiasm and drive.
- ◇ Legal qualification and prior recruitment consulting experience preferred but not essential.
- ◇ Age open. Female or male. Graduate calibre.

Please reply in writing, enclosing full cv,  
Reference BJ1256  
NRS, Bennetts Court,  
6 Bennetts Hill, Birmingham, B2 5ST

## **LITIGATION SOLICITORS**

Capsicks is a leader in medical malpractice and employers' liability litigation, acting on behalf of major insurers, health authorities and public utilities. We defend many of the largest personal injury actions in this country, including class actions involving hundreds of plaintiffs.

We are currently seeking bright and personable litigators at all levels to fill posts created by our present programme of expansion. The financial rewards are commensurate with City firms, and the quality of life substantially better. Prospects for advancement in this successful and growing practice are excellent.

Whether you are a personal injury specialist or prefer a mixed caseload including judicial review, employment law and commercial cases, you will find the work varied, interesting and worthwhile, with plenty of client contact and backed up by our award-winning litigation support system.

If you would like to hear more about a career with Capsicks, ring Delia Mordaunt on 01-780 2211, or send a CV to the managing partner, Capsicks, 77/83 Upper Richmond Road, London SW15 2TT.



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Legal Recruitment

### **COMMERCE/INDUSTRY**

#### **BANKING**

TO £40,000

This medium sized City practice seeks a one to three year qualified lawyer with relevant experience to undertake a high quality workload including syndicated loans, swaps and asset financing.

#### **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

TO £40,000

Our client, a well known City practice seeks an additional lawyer, one to three years' qualified, to handle patents and trademarks litigation to join its expanding department.

#### **'90 QUALIFIERS**

TO £25,000

The options available to newly qualified are myriad and it is vital to fully explore all avenues. As qualified lawyers with a wide variety of clients in industry and private practice, we are well placed to assist you.

The above are only a small selection from the positions we are currently instructed to fill. If you would like to discuss any of these or any other aspect of your career, please telephone Anne Stephenson/Fiona Cass (Private Practice) or

Laurence Simons/Shona McDougall (Commerce/Industry).

**01-331 3270**

(01-485 1345 evenings/weekends)

Or write to: Laurence Simons Associates, 33 John's Mews, London WC1N 2NS.

We are qualified lawyers with extensive experience in legal recruitment and all approaches are treated in strict confidence.

## **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PARTNER**

Our Client's reputation, built on the quality and commerciality of its service, has swiftly established the firm as a major legal force in the City. It is poised for further strategic growth in the 1990's.

The firm's prestigious corporate client base includes national and international manufacturers and distributors, television and media clients, software companies, banks and institutions. These currently generate a significant stream of quality intellectual property work, both contentious and non-contentious.

The firm is committed to developing the international side of its practice and enjoys a substantial reputation for European Community Law. It is already established in Brussels and has connections with major overseas law firms.

An experienced IP litigator, ideally with a following, is sought to spearhead and act as a focus for the development of the contentious side of the firm's intellectual property practice.

Already a partner (or very senior assistant) elsewhere, the remuneration package and partnership drawings at this, one of the City's most profitable and professionally managed firms, will be attractive.

For further information, please contact Jonathan Macrae on 01-405 6062 (01-672 8340 evenings/weekends) or write to him at Quarry Dougall Recruitment, 9 Brownlow Street, London WCIV 6JD.



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- ◇ Legal division has several unique products with further considerable growth potential.
- ◇ Excellent reputation with wide range of clients.

**THE POSITION**

- ◇ Full profit responsibility for growth and development of division.
- ◇ Managing a small team with opportunity for further expansion.
- ◇ Lead marketing and selling to clients. Interview and assess candidates for key permanent and temporary appointments.

**QUALIFICATIONS**

- ◇ Dynamic leader and manager with marketing/selling skills, enthusiasm and drive.
- ◇ Legal qualification and prior recruitment consulting experience preferred but not essential.
- ◇ Age open. Female or male. Graduate calibre.

Please reply in writing, enclosing full cv,  
Reference BJ1256  
NRS, Bennetts Court,  
6 Bennetts Hill, Birmingham, B2 5ST

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## **HEAD OF BANKING LAW**

Our client is the retail banking division of a leading financial services group. It is in the process of implementing a major restructuring of its business in which the in-house legal function has an important part to play.

Leading a small team of legal advisers, you will be responsible for providing a comprehensive legal service across the full spectrum of banking work. This will involve close liaison with both regional offices and Head Office functions to identify and service their legal requirements.

A qualified lawyer, your substantial experience of banking law and practice should be combined with commercial awareness and proven management ability. Your aim will be to raise the profile of the legal function and be proactive in responding to the needs of an evolving business; so strong interpersonal skills are also essential.

Our client offers a car and generous benefits including mortgage subsidy and non-contributory pension scheme. Although initially based in London, this position will relocate to a new head office in the West Midlands by 1992. Full relocation assistance will be provided.

To apply please write in the strictest confidence, with full CV, to Andrew Young, CR5580, Lockyer Bradshaw & Wilson Ltd, 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 5LH.

Please specify any companies to whom your CV should not be forwarded.



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We wish to appoint a senior solicitor to handle commercial conveyancing issues arising from new store acquisitions and the ongoing development of the existing portfolio of some 1,000 properties. This high-profile post, which reports directly to Head of Legal Services and

involves close liaison with in-house estate management and development professionals, demands a high calibre achiever with at least 5 years' commercial conveyancing experience either in commerce or practice. Exposure to the retail environment would be an advantage but not essential.

Career development prospects within Safeway plc are outstanding and the attractive salary is backed by benefits including car, contributory pension scheme and BUPA.

Please write with full CV to:  
Cathy Mercer, Personnel Manager,  
Safeway plc, 6 Millington Road,  
Hayes, Middlesex UB4 2AY.  
Tel: 01-756 2174.



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OM London is a wholly owned subsidiary of Stockholm Options Market. Its success since operating in December last year has been exceptional. Already it has established its reputation as a highly professional, well managed exchange responsive to the market and innovative in product development. It has sister companies in Finland, Norway, France and Spain.

A Legal Adviser is now to be appointed to take over responsibility for all legal, contractual and company secretarial functions. The role will be wide-ranging and

challenging, involving all aspects of UK company law, international law, contractual agreements and close involvement with new product developments. Responsibilities will also include ensuring full compliance of the company with the SIB and other regulatory requirements and the international dimension will stem from joint venture arrangements in other European capitals.

Candidates should have a Law degree and also be qualified as a solicitor or barrister with a minimum of three years post qualifying experience gained either in the financial services sector or City based law firm. Experience of UK company law and compliance should be combined with international exposure,

a knowledge of European law and languages and a preparedness to travel. The personal qualities of an analytical and thorough approach augmented by the ability and determination to become an integral part of the senior management team are essential.

An excellent salary and benefits package will be negotiated with the successful candidate.

Please write in the first instance, enclosing a CV and full salary details, quoting ref E/0062T to Christopher Bainton Executive Selection Division Price Waterhouse Management Consultants No. 1 London Bridge London SE1 9QL Tel. 01-334 5273

**Price Waterhouse****Sole Lawyer****City based****To £45,000 + Banking Benefits**

Our client is the merchant banking and capital markets arm of one of the world's leading banks.

The Company has achieved impressive growth in recent years and now wishes to recruit a lawyer to the new position of internal legal adviser.

The successful candidate will act as the Company's legal adviser in relation to all aspects of its activities, including public and private bond issues, swap transactions, options and other derivative products, and will also be fully involved in the Company's expanding corporate finance activities.

The ideal candidate will be aged between 27 and 35 with relevant experience gained in the banking sector or within private practice.

The comprehensive salary and benefits package will be highly attractive and will include a subsidised mortgage.

For further information please contact Laurence Simons on 01 831 3270 (01 485 1345 evenings/weekends) or write to him at Laurence Simons Associates, 33 Johns Mews, London WC1N 2NS.

**LAURENCE SIMONS ASSOCIATES**

*Legal Recruitment***PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT**

We are instructed by a prominent City practice to select and introduce a solicitor admitted around five years for its high profile Commercial Property Department. The successful candidate will join a team handling major development projects of all kinds. Good relevant experience and an ability to handle varied and challenging work in a highly professional and pragmatic manner are essential requirements.

The salary package and prospects will reflect the importance attached to this appointment.

Please apply, in strict confidence, to Mack Dinshaw or Stephen Watkins.

**Law Personnel**

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**PRACTICE MANAGER****THE CHAMBERS OF MICHAEL HILL QC**

will be moving to 36-39 Essex Street, London WC2, at the end of 1990. This will allow for expansion from 25 about to 40 practising barristers and re-organisation of the management of Chambers. The essential function of the Practice Manager will be to manage and advance the practices of members of Chambers. Remuneration will be a combination of salary and performance-related bonuses.

Applications in confidence to Michael Hill QC,  
3 Temple Gardens, Temple, London EC4Y 9AU.

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The London Borough of Bromley is looking for a lawyer of the very highest professional standing to undertake one of the most prestigious advisory and managerial roles in local government.

Bromley, the largest of the London boroughs, is pioneering a commercially-driven approach to local government; an entrepreneurial management style is helping to generate radical innovations in the delivery of services, including management buy-outs and buy-ins. The legal issues involved are complex and, in many cases, without precedent; the intellectual challenge of this role is therefore immense. As Borough Secretary, you must have the credibility and personal skills to gain the trust of council members quickly, as you will be providing advice at the formative stages of ideas and projects.

As well as involvement in the key strategic issues facing the Borough, you will lead a team of 150 staff: the Borough Secretary's Department comprises a 40-strong team of lawyers engaged on an enormously wide caseload; committee clerks who manage all council proceedings; and central

administrative and general services. Clearly your managerial skills must match your exceptional legal expertise.

You will be a qualified lawyer, with 10-15 years' professional experience which includes a substantial and impressive track record of achievement in local government. You must have the energy and vision to contribute to policy and corporate developments in a commercially-driven environment.

Salary of around £47,000 will be boosted by performance-related pay additions and supported by a comprehensive range of benefits including a luxury car, and relocation assistance up to £8,000.

Please write for an application form and further details to Sandra Campbell, Chief Personnel Officer, Bromley Civic Centre, Rochester Avenue, Bromley BR1 3UH. Telephone: 01-290 0324 (24-hour answering service). Closing date: 23rd April 1990.

**Chambers of Gareth Williams Q.C.  
FARRAR'S BUILDING  
TEMPLE EC4Y 7BD****TENANCY**

A vacancy has arisen in the above common law chambers for an established practitioner of 5-8 years' call.

Applications in writing, accompanied by a C.V., will be treated in confidence and should be sent to Douglas Day Q.C.

at the above address by  
7th April 1990.

**Legal Opportunities**

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St James Street  
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Formula One's lordly ruler makes triumphal progress in his surprise mission to the Brazilian Grand Prix

# Balestre adds own brand of madness

São Paulo

IT IS never quite clear whether the people with bodyguards are simply being sensible, or whether they are in a terminal stage of egomania. However, it has been suggested that Jean Marie Balestre has long since ceased to find this a useful distinction.

Formula One is mad: there is no escaping that fact. And Balestre, the 68-year-old Frenchman who is president of the sport's ruling body, FISA, came here to watch the Brazilian Grand Prix, and gave one of sport's more deeply eccentric press conferences to mark the occasion. "I have come, so that once again you can attack me," he announced grandly. Where the jokes ended and the real life began was never quite clear with Balestre last weekend.

One of the most touching souvenirs of this race were Balestre T-shirts, which were outselling even Ayrton Senna T-shirts in the crowded streets around the Interlagos circuit.

**Simon Barnes**

They bear an obscene inscription, in English, addressed to Balestre. The S in Balestre has been unkindly replaced by a swastika. This is not only a back-handed tribute to Balestre's renowned autocratic notion of presidency; it is also a reference to stories published in France and Germany suggesting that Balestre in his youth had an involvement with a Nazi party — stories that have led to litigation.

This did not stop the Brazilian crowd taunting him with a chorus of "Sieg Heil" when he took a walk along the pit lane before final qualifying on Saturday. Even without this, the occasion was bizarre enough as Balestre made his walkabout with a group of minders straight out of Central Casting.

Their sporting differences have become a feud between two men. Senna was disqualified from a race last year, later massively fined, and threatened with a ban from the sport after saying that Balestre had "manipulated" the world championships in favour of Alain Prost, of France. In short, it has all got personal. And Brazil "hates" Balestre.

Balestre had been expected to miss out this grand prix: had been

All three won the *de rigueur* black shades and undertaker's suits. And the boss minder carried a sort of violin case everywhere he and Balestre went; it is said to have contained a Uzi sub-machine-gun.

Balestre has certainly had a good few death threats from a Brazilian direction. Naturally, these all revolve around the extraordinary Ayrton Senna. To Brazilians, Senna was robbed of the world championship by Balestre: robbed as a matter of personal spite.

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Balestre had been expected to miss out this grand prix: had been

diagnosed as suffering from a diplomatic disease. He had, he said, been genuinely unwell: "I am an old man, and I had open heart surgery four years ago." But he came to Brazil anyway. "Forty-eight hours ago I said I would not be here because of my health. But now I consider it an obligation to be here."

A monarch's duty is to be with his people in their hour of need. The dramatic financial move instigated by the new president of Brazil, Fernando Collor, has thrown the never very serene world of Formula One into panic. There were problems getting the tyres through Customs; there were even problems finding enough local currency to buy the food for the mechanics. So the president had to fly out. *Noblesse oblige*. "The perverse pleasure of facing a roaring public was another reason," he said.

He then read out a letter he had written to Collor. It was, quite emphatically, communication

from one president — one ruler — to another. "It is the reason for which I take the liberty to ask you to give the necessary orders to your Government in order that all the necessary assistance be given to all entrants in the world championship. I myself, in spite of protracted illness, have decided to go to São Paulo... in order to personally control that all condition for the success of a good grand prix, are met."

That is all six and most odd; odder still to have this printed out and then dealt around as a press handout. And with that Balestre switched into full general De Gaulle mode, and thundered out, arms upraised: "C'est — notre — championnat du monde de la FIA."

The president of the FIA — the Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile — is also Jean Marie Balestre. *Quel surprise. For note, read more.*

Balestre then appeared to profit

from this mixture of threats and buffoonery. That remarkable old gentleman controls his sport absolutely. All sports are the domain of power seekers: people who seek power in sport because they believe their sport is the most — the only — important thing in the world.

Formula One demonstrates this obsessiveness more than most; but then Formula One has always been madder than most, as well. Power makes you odd; absolute power sends you completely狂狂... I wonder if that is the moral of this sporting weekend in Brazil.



Balestre: absolute monarch

## RUGBY UNION

# Stylish England do not deserve to be wholly forgotten

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

"PEOPLE will remember 1990 for Scotland's grand slam, not for the team that came second," David Sole, the Scotland captain, said in the hour of his country's triumph. It was an entirely understandable reaction at the end of an exhausting 80 minutes which brought all the honours of this season's five nations' championship to Murrayfield, but it would be a pity if it were entirely true.

England, the team which came second, contributed so much to the championship that they do not deserve to be so harshly written off. If an entirely neutral party made a video of this season's highlights, I suspect there would be more of England than Scotland in it and such a video would also serve to highlight the context of this season's championship — one country, France, at odds with itself and two — Ireland and Wales — undergoing an identity crisis.

Although the history books will not necessarily acknowledge it, the winners of this season's title will be told that it was a poor year. That will not affect Scotland's players, nor would it have affected England's; all any country can

do is beat the best arrayed against it in any one season and England, in three matches, destroyed their opponents in a more clinical fashion than they have done for years. By contrast, only one score stood between the Scots and defeat in both Lansdowne Road and Cardiff.

When it came to the crunch, though, Scotland's attitude served them better. A lot of rubbish was spoken at the time of the Scots being "hungrier" for success than England, of England believing the pre-match hype; since England have won so few rugby honours since the war they should have been absolutely starving and throughout the season their feet stayed firmly rooted to the ground. On the day, there were identifiable factors why Scotland won — one of which was the fact that the game was at Murrayfield.

"But they are not a grand slam side," a colleague, not English, said, and you knew what he meant. He was looking for some lasting moment of brilliance, some contribution to the generality of rugby; what he got (and it may be of some comfort to Scotland that they share this "fault") with

"We have a longer-term target and part of the approach with the players has been to deter them from building everything into one game," Geoff Cooke, the team manager, said, and on the eve of the Cuttler Cup match.

## Australian anger at board's delay

By David Hands

DAVID Evans, the Cardiff stand-off, who was invited to captain Wales in the international sevens tournament in Hong Kong this weekend, was forced to withdraw from the party which left yesterday (David Hands writes).

Evans's domestic season is over after the shoulder injury he sustained during the international against Ireland on Saturday.

Alec Williams, the uncapped Bridgend stand-off, replaces him and although a new captain has not yet been named, the choice is presumably between Chris Bridge, the Neath scrum-half, and Colin Hillman, of South Wales Police.

Wales, the only national side competing from the four home unions, are joined by the Barbarians and Scottish Borders. The Barbarians include Jeremy Guscott, the Bath and England centre, who has excised the interest of Huddersfield, eleventh in the second division of rugby league's Stones Bitter Championship.

ENGLAND 16 GROUP (v Italy at Walsall on April 14); T Stenhouse (Scarborough); A Razek (Loughborough GS); K Wolfenden (Brentford School); N Peters (Merton); D Edwards (Cardiff); S Tempel (King's), Tumman, S Perkin (St Helens); C Williams (Warrington); D Roberts (Durham); N Morris (Lancaster); A Edwards (Lewes Priory); G Archer (Blackpool); K Yates (Princes Henry GS, Old); B Wyre-Roberts (Edgbaston School).

**SRU seeks to avoid a capacity cut**

By Alan Lorimer

THE SCOTTISH Rugby Union is to seek dispensation from further implementation of the Taylor report in order to avert a drastic pruning of the capacity at Murrayfield for the 1991 World Cup.

The reductions of 20 per cent per season in the standing areas would diminish the present capacity of 53,500 to just under 45,000 and that, Bill Hogg, the SRU secretary, said, "is not what we want to see. We want to maximize attendance at this prestigious event."

Speaking at Murrayfield yes terday, Hogg went on to say: "We have had discussions already with the Scottish minister for sport, Michael Forsyth, and he is very sympathetic to our problem. We have pointed out that Murrayfield is a very spacious ground and that there have never been crowd problems."

The alternative short-term solution would be to erect temporary seating accommodation at either end of the Murrayfield stadium but, as Hogg explained, "this would be

costly and would not afford much shelter for spectators."

The reality facing the SRU is to bring forward its plans to make Murrayfield an all-seated stadium. "The cost of two stands at either end of the ground would be in the region of £10 million," Hogg went on. "It is a huge sum for us to raise, especially as we still have £1.2 million of interest-free loans to be repaid from the building of the East stand."

"We will be asking for assistance from the Government. We are not eligible for grants from the ground improvement trust, nor are we included in the assistance being given to football clubs for necessary implementation of the Taylor report. If we do want a new stand to be ready for the 1991 World Cup then we shall have to make a decision by, at the latest, the end of the summer," he added.

Speaking about the problem of tickets being re-sold at vastly inflated prices, Hogg said that the McEwan's national leagues will start on September 22 and that, also in that month Leinster play Edinburgh on September 8.

## British judo yearns for Olympic gold

### A nation's hopes rest on slender shoulders

By Nicolas Soames

AFTER four Olympic silver medals — Dave Starbrook, Keith Renfrew and two from Neil Adams — British judo years for an Olympic gold. If it comes in Barcelona in 1992, the chances are that it will be not from the ranks of the muscular men, but from the diminutive Karen Briggs.

**THE TIMES/MINET SUPREME AWARD**



Four times world champion, six times European champion, winner of every big title in judo and without doubt Britain's most consistent fighter, Briggs, aged 26, has set her determined sights on Barcelona.

"Anything can happen in two

and a half years, as I know only too well," Briggs said. Her career has oscillated between glittering success and injury. "I can only say that I hope I have had my fair share of broken bones, and I am due for a clear run to Barcelona."

She sees injury as the first obstacle to be overcome; second is the whereabouts to train. "I am very pleased with this £2,000 from *The Times/Minet awards*," she declared. "When I came back from New Zealand after winning the Commonwealth Games, I was worried — though I have a Sports Aid Foundation grant, other sponsorship hasn't come to an end."

Briggs needs the support to maintain the training routine that has proved successful to date. The specialist technical work — done in the environment of the British women's squad under the tutelage of Roy Inman — maintains and broadens her throwing and groundwork skills in what is, technically, one of the most complex sports.

Behind her accomplished technique lies an extreme level of physical fitness and mental strength that has made her virtually unassassable. It is significant that, in her assessment of her chance for Olympic gold, she said that means one more gold medal — she never once mentioned the opponents she was likely to meet.

These qualities are developed in her home environment, on her own. She lives with her father, Albert, on the edge of Hull; there she finds the privacy vital for her preparation.

Six days a week she runs, swims and pushes her body through a routine that would impress a baller dancer, and a

women's routine that impresses Elvis Gordon, even though her fighting weight is 48kg.

She does not admit to anyone that the task of winning that elusive Olympic gold medal for Britain is enormous. Briggs won her first world title in 1982 and lost it only once when she broke her leg in 1987.

The pressure of being at the top must begin to tell, though there was no sign of it when she regained her world title last October. "I want to take it easy this year," she said. Her only concern is to regain the European title in Frankfurt in May.

**The Times/Minet Supreme Award**

Acknowledgement of the standard of women's judo in Britain came from none other than Uematsu Kano, the grandson of the founder of judo, Jigoro Kano. "Especially we pay our respects to the judo activity of your country," he wrote to Mick Leigh, chairman of the British Judo Association. "It seems to be the hub of women's judo in the world."

Roy Inman, the British team manager, is delighted with the



**KAREN BRIGGS  
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## Japan's leading ladies take the London stage

By Nicolas Soames

FOR the first time, Japan's leading female judo fighters — including Karen Briggs's rival, the world silver medal winner, Fumiko Esaki — will be seen in London when they compete in the British Open at Crystal Palace on April 7 and 8.

Acknowledgement of the standard of women's judo in Britain came from none other than Uematsu Kano, the grandson of the founder of judo, Jigoro Kano. "Especially we pay our respects to the judo activity of your country," he wrote to Mick Leigh, chairman of the British Judo Association. "It seems to be the hub of women's judo in the world."

Karen Briggs is very different from Diane Bell, who is also very different to Sharon Lee. But that is because we work on different things — it is a question of being very flexible, of horses for courses."

There is also a possibility that a women's team from the Soviet Union will compete — their entry has yet to be confirmed — in addition to entries from 12 other countries, including France, Austria, Canada and The Netherlands.

## VOLLEYBALL

# Williams levels angry broadside at the EVA

By Roddy Mackenzie

JEFFERSON Williams, who guided Brixton Knights to the women's first division title in the Royal Bank of Scotland English League on Sunday, is in dispute with the English Volleyball Association (EVA) after a decision which could have deprived his team of the title.

On Sunday, Brixton went into their final fixture with Briania,

the defending champions, requiring only one set to clinch the title. However, the competition commission of the EVA met on Saturday to discuss an appeal by Hilton Leeds after an earlier decision to allow Brixton's League win over the Yorkshire club, on November 5, to stand after a mix-up over the starting time.

The commission ruled the result of the match, which Brixton won 3-0, should be reversed, since Brixton were at fault for the mix-up. Brixton thus had to beat Briania, which they did only after five hard-fought sets.

"I only heard about the decision at 10pm on Saturday night and the girls in the team

## TODAY'S FIXTURES

### FOOTBALL

(7.30 unless stated)  
**International match**

N Ireland v Norway (Windsor Park, 8.00)

**E Internationals**

Rep of Ireland v England (3.00)

Scotland v Yugoslavia

**Barclays League**

Bristol City v Northampton (7.45)

Cardiff v Mansfield

Huddersfield v Preston

Leeds United v Bolton (7.45)

Watford v Blackpool

**Fourth division**

Aldershot v Wrexham

Rockdale v Cambridge

Tiverton v Halifax

**B & Q Scottish League**

First division

Aberdeen v Albion

Clydebank v Hamilton

Clydebank v Meadowbank

Merton v Forfar

**Second**

## RACING

# Choicely-bred fillies to collect for Wragg

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

A DOUBLE for the Newmarket trainer Geoff Wragg and his new stable jockey Gary Carter looks a distinct possibility at Leicester today with Vote In Favour (2.0) and Casamurrae (4.5).

Both are beautifully-bred fillies who could well end up contesting much better races later in the season than those that confront them now.

Vote In Favour, my selection for the Keythorpe Maiden Stakes, is by General Assembly out of Favoforte who is by Riva Ridge out of Favoforte, the winner of the Irish 1,000 Guineas in 1971.

This is the famous female family tracing back to Hotiana that served the Moller brothers so well for so long.

Following the death of Eric Moller, the vast majority of his bloodstock was bought last autumn by Sheikh Mohammed, whose colours Vote In Favour will carry this afternoon.

In her only race last year, she was a creditable second to the more experienced Lip Sing on today's track in November. With that experience behind her she should be capable of going one better in this company.

Her stable companion Casamurrae, who is my choice to win the Harborough Fillies Stakes, is very closely related to her owner Sir Philip Oppenheimer's 1982 1,000 Guineas

winner, On The House.

In the second of her two races last season, which was also on the same midland track, Casamurrae was beaten a head only by Surpassing. She should only have to give a repeat performance this afternoon to gain a coveted victory.

On the jumping front at Sandown Park, another double for Martin Pipe and Peter Scudamore looks on the cards, thanks to The Leggett (2.15) and Terside (3.50).

Once it would have been foolhardy to oppose Kilbrannan Castle in a race such as the Save & Prosper 'Right O' The Line' Handicap Chase as Fulke Walwyn's old war horse has accumulated 11 victories on the track. Last time out, however, it looked as though the sprade of days gone by was missing. I much prefer The Leggett; who has been in fine form this season as his form figures clearly indicate.

Terside, my selection for the Vicar Almabrook Memorial Chase, returned to form at Newton Abbot 13 days ago when fitted with blinkers for the first time.

Not surprisingly, he will be wearing them again this afternoon when his most dangerous rival would appear to be Memerson, who was winning for the fourth time and again last year.

Belying his 17 years, De Pluvien can Father Day a neck in a hunter chase at the last meeting. Against that encouraging background, Guy Prest's old favourite has a sporting chance to triumph again.

For Tarconey and Bailes at the last meeting.

Springholm bounced back to his best at the start of that same programme with a decisive victory in the Dick McCrory Cup. Now I strongly fancy his chance of winning the Royal Ordnance Handicap Chase over the same trip, and he is my nap to beat Mandray and Ringmore.

The British Aerospace Rapiere Novices' Chase looks an ideal opportunity for New Halen to prove that his shock win at Cheltenham, where he swept away with the Midway of Flete Challenge Cup at 66-1, was no fluke.

In contrast, All Jeff, his main rival this afternoon, fell at Cheltenham.

Roscoe Harvey, who is the form horse for the Royal Artillery Gold Cup, will need to perform a great deal better than he did at Fontwell Park a week ago, when he finished last of four.

I prefer to rely on De Pluvien, who is attempting to capture this race a third time, having won it in 1983 and again last year.

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Springholm, seen winning at Newbury for Richard Dunwoody despite an untidy jump at the last, is strongly fancied to capture the Royal Ordnance Chase at Sandown

## VANESSA PARK

## Selections

By Mandarin

2.15 The Leggett,  
2.20 New Halen,  
3.20 De Pluvien.

Michael Seely's selection: 3.50 TORSIDE (nap).

Brian Reed's selection: 4.55 SUMMONS.

## Going: firm

2.15 SAVE &amp; PROSPER RIGHT O' THE LINE HANDICAP CHASE (24,250; 2m 4f 68yd) (5 runners)

101 188-612 CLARA MOUNTAIN (7) (Col/P) (F.G. 0.6) (B Salterbury) T Forster 11-11-10  
102 188-306 KILBRANNAN CASTLE (7) (Col/P) (F.G. 0.6) (B Salterbury) P Watton 14-11-0 - K Mooney  
103 188-111 THE LEGGETT (19) (Col/P) (F.G. 0.6) (P McPhee 7-10-11)  
104 188-994 PAN ARCTIC (10) (Col/P) (F.G. 0.6) (Mrs R Bell) T Bill 11-10-0 J Railton (2)  
105 188-644 PANIMARIE 3 (Col/P) (F.G. 0.6) (M Gaze) P Davis 11-10-0 Terri Dennis

Long handicap: Pan Arctic 8-6, Numerus 7-12.

BETTING: 5-4 Clara Mountain, 7-2 Kilbrannan Castle, 20-1 others.

1888 AVIATION 7-10-0 D Tegg (7-4) Edwards 5-11.

2.20 ROYAL AIRCRAFT PILOTS NOVICES' CHASE (Listed race: £1,172; 2m 4f 68yd) (7 runners)

201 188-822 ALL JEFF 13 (D/G/S) (Lady Joseph) C Brooks 6-11-8 P Scudamore

202 211H NEW HALEN 13 (D/G/S) (Mrs S Stiven) A James 9-11-8

203 188-612 HORCHENDL 7 (F) (Mrs L Harris) R Curtis 8-11-0 R Goldstein

204 188-688 RUNNING SANDS 18 (G) (Mrs S Willis) J Gifford 6-11-0 Peter Hobbs

205 0/54236 TURNBERRY DAWN 28 (Palladium Ltd) (Sukorski Memorial Fund) T Hales 8-11-0 D Webb

206 188-128 KILBRANNAN CASTLE 18 (Col/P) (F.G. 0.6) (A J Wilson) 10-10-0 D McLean

207 188-644 LEGEND 18 (Col/P) (F.G. 0.6) (P Rad) A J Wilson 8-10-0 D McLean

BETTING: 5-1 All Jeff, 7-2 Allie, 8-2 Brandtson, 6-1 Ranning Sands, 6-1 Turnberry Dawn, 10-1 Lucy of Baldoon, 20-1 Brandtson.

1888 VIKARS LANDING 5-11-8 S Sherwood (100-30) H Sherrard 8-11.

FORM FOCUS ALL JEFF in contention when he cut 3 in at Newbury when 3rd in the section, 23 to 2nd in the final. He has been in good form since his last win at Uttoxeter and Kilbrannan Castle (10s better off) a short head 3rd.

KILBRANNAN CASTLE, nine times a chase winner here, disappearing after slowly away (2m 18yd) on Saturday.

Selection: CLARA MOUNTAIN

2.20 BRITISH AEROSPACE RAPIER NOVICES' CHASE (Listed race: £1,172; 2m 4f 68yd) (7 runners)

201 188-822 ALL JEFF 13 (D/G/S) (Lady Joseph) C Brooks 6-11-8 P Scudamore

202 211H NEW HALEN 13 (D/G/S) (Mrs S Stiven) A James 9-11-8

203 188-612 HORCHENDL 7 (F) (Mrs L Harris) R Curtis 8-11-0 R Goldstein

204 188-688 RUNNING SANDS 18 (G) (Mrs S Willis) J Gifford 6-11-0 Peter Hobbs

205 0/54236 TURNBERRY DAWN 28 (Palladium Ltd) (Sukorski Memorial Fund) T Hales 8-11-0 D Webb

206 188-128 KILBRANNAN CASTLE 18 (Col/P) (F.G. 0.6) (A J Wilson) 10-10-0 D McLean

207 188-644 LEGEND 18 (Col/P) (F.G. 0.6) (P Rad) A J Wilson 8-10-0 D McLean

BETTING: 5-1 All Jeff, 7-2 Allie, 8-2 Brandtson, 6-1 Ranning Sands, 6-1 Turnberry Dawn, 10-1 Lucy of Baldoon, 20-1 Brandtson.

1888 VIKARS LANDING 5-11-8 S Sherwood (100-30) H Sherrard 8-11.

FORM FOCUS ALL JEFF in contention when he cut 3 in at Newbury when 3rd in the section, 23 to 2nd in the final. He has been in good form since his last win at Uttoxeter and Kilbrannan Castle (10s better off) a short head 3rd.

KILBRANNAN CASTLE, nine times a chase winner here, disappearing after slowly away (2m 18yd) on Saturday.

Selection: CLARA MOUNTAIN

2.20 ROYAL ARTILLERY GOLD CUP CHASE (Amateurs: £3,510; 3m 118yd) (9 runners)

201 188-171 PLUVIEN 18 (Col/P) (F.G. 0.6) (P Rad) G Press 17-12-0 J Tidmarsh

202 188-211H NEW HALEN 13 (D/G/S) (Mrs S Stiven) A James 9-11-8

203 188-612 HORCHENDL 7 (F) (Mrs L Harris) R Curtis 8-11-0 R Goldstein

204 188-688 COOLCOOTES 18 (Col/P) (F.G. 0.6) (P Rad) C Lyons 12-12-0 Peter Hobbs

205 0/54236 TURNBERRY DAWN 28 (Palladium Ltd) (Sukorski Memorial Fund) T Hales 8-11-0 D Webb

206 188-128 KILBRANNAN CASTLE 18 (Col/P) (F.G. 0.6) (A J Wilson) 10-10-0 D McLean

207 188-644 MAJOR TOM 36 (Col/P) (F.G. 0.6) (H Willis) 13-11-7 P Shakespeare

208 188-220 PUPPIP 36 (Col/P) (F.G. 0.6) (R Burgess) 12-11-7 J Whittingdale

209 188-600 SASSPHINE 32 (Col/P) (F.G. 0.6) (M Evans) 15-11-7 J Whittingdale

210 188-2244 ROCKMARIN 8 (F) (McKenna) J Johnson 9-11-3 D McLean

BETTING: 5-2 Allie, 7-2 Allie, 8-2 Brandtson, 6-1 Ranning Sands, 6-1 Turnberry Dawn, 10-1 Lucy of Baldoon, 20-1 Brandtson.

1888 DE PLUVIEN 18-19-7 J Tidmarsh (5-4) G Press 8-11.

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1888 VIKARS LANDING 5-11-8 S



## Brazil find a new magical potion

By Stuart Jones

Football Correspondent

THE BRAZILIAN magic has gone. That regrettable opinion is offered by no less an authority than Brazil's manager, Sébastien Lazaroni. But he believes that, instead of relying on individual brilliance, he has found a more dependable formula with which to cast bewitching spells during the World Cup.

Without diminishing the natural ingredients of any Brazilian side, the soft touch and the graceful athleticism, he has added the tougher characteristics of power and aggression more usually associated with Europeans. The blend, he feels, could lead to a triumphant conclusion in Rome's Olympic Stadium on July 2.

"We are trying to find a better equilibrium between attack and defence," he says. "We have the natural talent to attack. Now we need more competitive players to fight, not with the fists but for another of the finalists he respects results. It is important that we adjust our philosophy and I'm teaching my players the reality of the modern game."

There were misgivings in his own homeland when he took over a year ago. He was felt to be tactically

naïve. But results since he became the first Brazilian manager to employ a sweeper have transformed his reputation and his team, which is regarded as one of the favourites of the World Cup.

He still has his critics. For instance, Socrates, the former captain, says: "We are too rigid and our natural flair has been limited." But, under Lazaroni, Brazil won the South American championship for the first time in 40 years and have lost only three of their 23 fixtures.

Their defeats were inflicted during a tour of Scandinavia last summer when they were severely depleted. At full strength they recently conquered Italy, the World Cup hosts, and The Netherlands, who have otherwise remained unbeaten since they became the European champions two years ago, in December, for example, belonged to

Lazaroni and Shilton in particular and Barnes can't be blamed if Bryan Robson is injured. He's a truly great player." Even though he has seen England play only on film, the style is familiar. It has been, he says, since 1966.

"You changed football then. Time and space became smaller and life was more difficult because there was less room to use technical skills. We are trying to change our attitude now as well but your fans shouldn't worry at Wembley you will see true Brazilian football."

"I can't alter our philosophy. No one coach can. That would take 100 coaches and 100 years. Anyway, why should I when I have 11 good players?" His only absentee is Romario, the leading scorer in The Netherlands before he fractured a bone in his leg three weeks ago.

"He is an important player," Lazaroni says. "When I heard that he could be playing again in a fortnight, I telephoned him to tell him to take it easy and to be sure to go for Italy." Romario, of PSV Eindhoven, is only one of his European exiles.

Nine of the side he chose against The Netherlands in Rotterdam in December, for example, belonged to

Continental clubs. They have already experienced for themselves the mental approach which Lazaroni is instilling in his squad.

"We are learning to use individual technique for the benefit of the whole team. We used to have a genius called Pelé but we don't have one now. When we come to rub our lamp in Italy, perhaps we will find another Aladdin. I hope so. Each contender for the World Cup has six or seven players and I wouldn't write off Argentina."

"Maradona is their genius, their Aladdin. He has had problems but Carlos Bilardo [Argentina's manager] tells me that Diego will be fit and ready." Apart from Italy and The Netherlands, he chooses West Germany because of their record and England, "because of their tradition," as the other potential threats.

Lazaroni graduated from being, in his own words, "a very bad goalkeeper" to leading Flamengo (in 1986) and Vasco de Gama (in 1987 and 1988) to the domestic title. As he seeks success on a grander managerial scale, he says that he is "confident" in his own new magical potion.



Lazaroni: a European formula

## Seaman and Beasant under scrutiny

From Clive White  
Dublin

WHILE an embarrassment of riches in the goalkeeping position continues to give Bobby Robson, the England manager, sleepless nights, for the Republic of Ireland there is no problem. Jack Charlton, their manager, announced yesterday that he would probably include only two goalkeepers among his squad of 22 for the World Cup finals in Italy this summer.

"I can always call up a third if someone gets injured," he said on the eve of the B international between the two countries in Cork. Presumably Robson has already taken into account the FIFA rule which permits only goalkeepers to be added to the squad in the event of injury. Robson has admitted half-jokingly that he may have to toss a coin to decide which two among Chris Woods, David Seaman and Dave Beasant will accompany Peter Shilton, his first choice, in Italy.

Todday Seaman and Beasant will attempt to dispense with the need for any recourse to pot luck when they play a half each. Beasant spoke first, probably ill advisedly, to say: "It would be a terrible blow to have got this far and run out."

At least Beasant should be on an emotional high after the triumph by Chelsea at Wembley on Sunday in the Zenith Data Systems Cup final. That is in stark contrast to Seaman whose dreams of joining Arsenal remain exactly that after the exchange deal involving himself and John Lukic collapsed last week.

It is not many months ago that Beasant's hopes seemed to be plummeting along with Chelsea as they slipped down the first division table. "I was getting a bit worried when the goals were not always down to me. I thought that I was playing well but that sort of thing can't do you any good," he said. Chelsea have recovered their form not a moment too soon as far as Beasant's reputation is concerned.

Neither Beasant nor Seaman, though, may get too many opportunities to steal a march on one another against a much less experienced Republic side. The Irish have opted for youth and welcome the challenge in what remains to be seen in the likes of Tony Adams, Matthew Le Tissier and possibly Nigel Clough and Tony Daley. Quinn selected in the Irish attack admitted that he would rather face just about any other centre back than Adams, his former Arsenal colleague, of whom he has a rather different view than many critics.

A greater threat to the two England goalkeepers is more likely to come from Alan McLaughlin, who has scored 16 goals this season from midfield for Swindon Town. Charlton had considered selecting him for



Hidden talents Two England players take cover in training but there will be no hiding against Brazil says Bobby Robson

## Roberts is ruled out by Wales

TERRY YORATH, the Wales manager, had to think of yet another name for his squad to face World Cup qualifiers, the Republic of Ireland, tomorrow, when he was unable to add Iwan Roberts to his list.

Yorath had hoped to replace the injured Mark Hughes with the Watford forward, but when he discovered Roberts is likely to be ruled out for six weeks because of an inflamed pelvis,

Instead, Yorath has drafted in Andy Jones, of Charlton Athletic, along with the Portsmouth defender, Gavin Maguire, who replaces the injured captain, Kevin Ratcliffe, of Everton.

• Owen Oyston, the majority shareholder, has been appointed chairman of Blackpool in succession to the local solicitor, Ken Chadwick, who resigned last week. One of his first duties will be to preside at tonight's annual general meeting when shareholders will be told of big losses by the club struggling for third division survival.

Yorath will strive to avoid a defeat. It seems certain that he

## Bingham priority is to avoid defeat

By George Ace

BILLY BINGHAM put his much improved Northern Ireland squad through an hour-long workout yesterday afternoon in preparation for the match against Norway at Windsor Park, Belfast, tonight — a first tentative step in the build-up to the European championship which gets underway later in the year.

"Ideally I would have liked to have had my full complement of players together for this first open-air match but circumstances will not allow that," he said. "Injuries have forced me to bring in Gary Fleming, Mark Todd and Raymond McCoy to replace Alan McDonald, Michael O'Neill and Robbie Atkins."

"It is unfortunate but it does provide an opportunity to gauge the ability of players on the fringe in international competition."

Bingham will strive to avoid a defeat. It seems certain that he

will start the match with the most experienced team he has at his disposal.

The biggest problem for the manager is how he is going to deploy his troops. One area that is going to demand all his acumen is midfield.

"I am heartened by the fact that Clarke Quinn, Black and the Wilson boys are scoring goals at club level and if they can keep up the good work it may well be a memorable night for Northern Ireland football," Bingham said.

Northern Ireland have achieved only two wins in the last 18 internationals.

Bingham has several options open to him. While he may be prepared to gamble on one or two of the newcomers, it will be surprising if he omits any of his proven defenders.

• A late withdrawal from the Norwegian squad is Runey Bratseth, the captain. The defender, aged 29, is needed by his club, Werder Bremen, for a West German Cup match.

## Supporters to fight election

CHARLTON ATHLETIC

supporters, angry at Greenwich Council's decision to refuse the club planning permission for a return to the Valley from Selhurst Park, have launched a campaign to put up 60 candidates in all 32 wards of the borough for the Greenwich Borough Council elections in May.

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# SPORT

TUESDAY MARCH 27 1990

## Robson tells his men to temper their aggression

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

BOBBY ROBSON yesterday issued a stern warning to the Brazilians. The champions of South America should not expect to be able to coast, or "soft shoe shuffle", as the England manager poetically describes their approach to recent games on the Continent, during the international at Wembley tomorrow night.

"We won't soft shoe shuffle," he said. "We don't play that way and we wouldn't want to, anyway, in front of a full house. People will expect a high performance from us and that is what we intend to give. Besides, there are one or two players still competing for their places."

"We weren't in second gear against Italy in November. We tried to go out there and beat them. It was the same against Yugoslavia in December and we did beat them with brisk, adventurous football, not the conservative way. Brazil have concentrated more on not losing than winning."

But his fighting talk is laced with a couple of his own notes of caution. As well as telling those in his side who are reputed to be England's hard men to temper their aggression, he has instructed the

### World Cup crackdown

TIRRENI, Italy (Reuters) — Officials refereeing this summer's World Cup matches in Italy gathered near Pisa yesterday for a three-day meeting to ensure uniform refereeing of the 52 games.

At an International Football

whole side to limit the sense of adventure.

Last week in Zurich, where he was praised for his sporting reaction to the infamous Argentina goal scored by the hands of Maradona and God four years ago, Robson learned that violent tackles will not be tolerated during the World Cup. Referees are this week receiving their instructions from FIFA, the game's governing body.

"What happens in the World Cup will set the tone for the next four years," Sepp Blatter, FIFA's secretary, said in Switzerland. "We are the window to the world and I don't care how many yellow cards there are during the tournament. The game is more important."

No Englishman is more likely to be punished this summer than Pearce. With two rash lunges, he threatened to dismember Donadoni and Stojkovic, the leading lights of Italy and Yugoslavia respectively, in the last two internationals and Robson recognizes that his left back will need to be more circumspect.

He said: "You can get away with it in our League but in the

### Maradona pulls out of game against Scotland

Federation (FIFA) workshop last week, officials said referees would be ordered to punish play severely, and that players attempting tackles from behind should be sent off. They will also receive advice on how to avoid inciting crowd violence.

At an International Football

ARGENTINA's World Cup captain, Diego Maradona, has dealt an unexpected blow to Scotland's preparations for the World Cup finals in Italy this week, he was instead heading east, to Japan, for a week's break away from football with his family.

"I'm on holiday," he told reporters at Rome's Fiumicino airport. He is also due to fulfil an advertising contract in Japan.

With Maradona now a non-starter, the Heart of Midlothian central defender, Craig Levein, now faces a potentially gentler introduction to the international stage.

He, alongside the Everton midfield player, Stuart McCall, is set to make his international debut for Scotland tomorrow, and stake a belated claim to a seat on the

plane to Italy in the summer.

Levein, aged 25, and covered by a series of clubs south of the border until his career was almost cut short by injury, is, with McCall, part of an experimental line-up named by the Scotland coach, Andy Roxburgh.

"It's time to push them into the arena," Roxburgh said of the two players. This match against Argentina and next month's game with East Germany are all about learning. Our approach is geared towards Italy and we are looking for individuals, or combinations, which can help us.

What is the point of beating Argentina and then losing to Costa Rica in the World Cup? We have got to use these games to learn things."

Two of Levein's initial visitors in hospital, after the first of several operations on damaged knee ligaments, were Roxburgh and his assistant, Craig Brown. Roxburgh said:

"It is a remarkable achievement that he has managed to reach this stage again after almost two years on crutches.

"When Craig and I went to see him in hospital, you wouldn't have given tuppence for his chances of coming back. It's tremendous that he has recovered so well."

Of McCall, he said: "He has matured. He used to be dominated by Peter Reid at Everton, but now he has developed into a typical Scottish midfielder who can pass".

The changes may not stop with the inclusion of Levein and McCall. Despite their superb showing during the qualifying round, the Rangers pairing of Ally McCoist and Maurice Johnston have looked jaded of late.

Robert Fleck and Alan McNally may, therefore, come into the picture.

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